

# State of Nevada

Integrated Workforce Plan For Title I of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998

> Wagner-Peyser Act and Agricultural Outreach

For the Period of July 1, 2012 -June 30, 2017

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#### Section I. State Workforce Strategic Plan

Governor's Vision: This portion of the Integrated Workforce Plan must describe the governor's strategic vision for the state's economy and overarching goals for the state's workforce system. This vision should provide the strategic direction for the state workforce system and guide investments in workforce preparation, skill development, education and training, and major initiatives supporting the governor's vision. The plan also must specifically address the governor's vision for aligning efforts among workforce development partners to achieve accessible, seamless, integrated, and comprehensive service, and how programs and activities described in the plan will support the state's economic development needs and the employment and training needs of all working-age youth and adults in the state. The plan should include a description of the methods used for joint planning, and coordination of the programs and activities included in the plan. (WIA Sections 111(d)(2), 112(a)-(b), W-P Section 8(c).)

Nevada is currently undergoing a complete restructure of our economic development system, and we are aligning our workforce development to support the revised structure. Governor Sandoval's Vision is to provide "A vibrant, innovative and sustainable economy"; with the Mission being "High-quality jobs for Nevadans". The objectives of the state's Plan for Excellence in Economic Development include:

- Establishing a cohesive economic development operating system.
- Advancing targeted business sectors and opportunities in the various regions of the state.
- Expanding global engagement.
- Catalyzing innovation in core and emerging industries.
- Increasing opportunity through education and workforce development.

The geography of our state, as well as the emerging industry sectors we target, demand a statewide perspective where holistic strategies for workforce development are employed; industry-specific training is provided; and consistent foundational and/or remedial workforce training is made available, whether in our urban or rural environments.

Studies of our training delivery mechanisms reveal that we have not utilized our strongest and most flexible higher education component, the community college system, to any great degree.

Our interaction and collaboration between the local workforce boards and the industry sector employers or the regional development authorities, has not been adequate or consistent. And, finally, the relationship between our local workforce investment boards and the state government, particularly the Governor's Workforce Investment Board is not as productive as it should be.

#### State Economic Development Plan: Governor's Opening Statement

Consider for a moment first grade students across Nevada. This year's first graders – the graduating Class of 2024 – have their whole lives ahead of them; it's easy to imagine their bright young faces flushed with excitement about what they might be when they grow up. But as a practical matter, we cannot know what manner of careers will be available to them. The global

economy now changes so dramatically, and so rapidly, that entire career paths will come and go by time the Class of 2024 graduates.

This economic development plan is dedicated to those students.

For nearly 150 years, Nevada has seen more than its share of economic booms and busts. From mineral extraction to tourism and gaming entertainment to residential and commercial construction, our economic model has historically relied heavily on consumption-based industries. As a result, the Great Recession hit us harder than any other state. Our path out of the current economic reality will therefore be long, and by necessity we must walk that path together. It will not be easy – and the new Office of Economic Development cannot do this alone. All stakeholders, planning strategically and leveraging their resources, must work together to produce the doers – the thinkers – and the dreamers – Nevada needs.

Our State Plan for Economic Development is a living, dynamic document with strategies that can be adjusted as circumstances demand. As a result, this first iteration proposes a plan of action for the next three years. We will assiduously track and regularly report our progress, making periodic updates available as needed. We are pledged to refine and refocus our efforts as changing situations demand.

We will always have certain strengths in Nevada – but we are also home to emerging opportunities previously unimagined. Clean energy, aerospace industries, health services, business information systems – these are the new frontiers that will beckon future generations of Nevadans. The new economy fosters entrepreneurs, rewards innovation, and is nimble and flexible. It recognizes that there are hundreds, if not thousands, of businesses in this state that are ready to expand. There are also dozens of good ideas in Nevadans' minds, ready to emerge as start-up enterprises. Relocation and attraction of out-of-state companies are still important – and we will vigorously pursue those opportunities – but Nevada has its own resources, ready for deployment. After all, the economic touchstones that we all recognize from our history – mining hub, divorce mecca, entertainment capital – all were launched from businesses that started here. The Nevada family is no stranger to innovation.

Through a strong educational system that arms students with skill sets that will translate to jobs we haven't yet imagined, through careful study of our legal and regulatory systems, through global engagement, we must ensure that Nevadans can continue to answer the call of opportunity whenever it is heard. Education and workforce development are therefore part of this effort as well. Whether a child's critical thinking skills are honed through a challenging curriculum, or a graduate student's intellect is tapped for cutting-edge research on futuristic patents, or a displaced worker obtains a new skill set, the needs of the future economy can and will be met by the groundwork we are laying through this plan.

We must maintain a sense of urgency. Nevada's unemployment rate is unacceptably high, yet there are many job openings in our state for which the current workforce is not prepared. Our entire education system and workforce development agencies must join forces with economic development agencies; we must address unemployment, while at the same time creating the future careers for first graders in every corner of our state. State government, across all agencies, must work hand-in-glove with local governments, regional development organizations, and the private sector to bring our economy into alignment with the current reality and the

emerging global environment. We must have new job opportunities, <u>and</u> we must have a skilled workforce. We must therefore work on multiple tracks.

Governor Sandoval has said that economic development is a journey, not a destination. On the horizon we can see the desired aim: a balanced, resilient statewide economy based on the pillars of opportunity, innovation, hard work, and collaboration. With that in mind, this plan is not the end of the conversation about Nevada's new opportunity economy. Rather, it is the beginning. The strategies and metrics proposed in this plan will move us ever closer toward our goals and will require the engagement of both the public and private sectors in innovative partnerships. By the end of 2014, the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nevada's admittance to the Union, our state will be traveling on the new path conceived in this document. And by the time the Class of 2024 graduates from our high schools, they – and Nevada – will be active players on the global stage.

# Plan Development Process

When Governor Sandoval took office in January 2011 he stated "by 2014 we will emerge with a smaller, more efficient state government, an education system we can be proud of, and a supply of good jobs transformed by a forever-changed economy. Nevada's best days are yet to come. We will create a new promise of opportunity."

Governor Sandoval recognizes that a flexible and effective workforce investment system is essential for economic growth and job creation. The Governor's workforce system objectives were the primary drivers in the development of the Nevada Workforce Investment Act (WIA) State Plan.

# Key Stakeholder Input

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) is an advisory panel that provides high-level recommendations on the operations of the state's workforce investment system. To reinforce the vital role of the GWIB, under Governor Sandoval's direction, the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) is working to reconstitute the Board membership in a way that is more reflective of the critical role that the private sector plays in the workforce investment system. The new members of the GWIB representing the private sector will have strong business leadership backgrounds and further support the Governor's focus on private-sector job creation and business diversification.

#### State Vision

Governor Sandoval is committed to creating a business climate in Nevada that allows the private sector to create new jobs. Since he took office in January 2011, the Governor has advanced policies that support economic development reform and growth. As the cornerstone of the delivery of workforce activities, the GWIB, Local Elected Officials, and DETR will play a vital role in deliverables planning and implementing these goals. With a focus on a more flexible, nimble and effective system, Governor Sandoval has articulated his vision for a workforce system in Nevada that:

- Anticipates employer labor needs while building and strengthening Nevada's workforce;
- Supports the development of a highly qualified labor force; and
- Empowers individuals to pursue and retain good paying careers.

Governor Sandoval has laid out his priorities to elevate Nevada's workforce system as the best in the world, and to be the workforce system of choice, by:

- Improving the alignment between the skills needed by private sector employers and the education and job training systems that provide the pipeline of workers;
- Coordinating federal and state economic and workforce development funds to target resources more effectively;
- Aligning school system curricula with the education and training needed for successful
  job placements, including basic education requirements for all systems along with the
  ability to tailor programming to reflect the needs of a local area; local regions would be
  able to modify their curricula based on regional employers' skilled worker pipeline
  needs;
- Improving accountability and transparency in order to measure success and prioritize future funding based on outcomes; and
- Researching and incorporating best practices from other states to support an effective, well coordinated programming system that is in line with federal requirements.

#### **Economic Goals**

The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) promotes a robust, diversified, and prosperous economy, enriching the quality of life for Nevada citizens by stimulating business expansion and retention, encouraging entrepreneurial enterprise, attracting new businesses and facilitating community development to enable economic growth and prosperity. Through incorporation of DETR with the strategic initiatives of GOED, the state will attain seamless improvement of training slated to provide a workforce that will serve the industries of the current and future components of the Nevada economy.

Assembly Bill 449 which passed during Nevada's 2011 Legislative session creates a structure for the economic development programs in the state. The bill specifically establishes the following:

- Creates an Advisory Council on Economic Development
- Creates the Board of Economic Development, consisting of the Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Chancellor of the Nevada System of Higher Education, the Director of DETR, and six private sector business people appointed by the Governor and legislative leadership.
- Creates and provides for the administration of a Catalyst Fund to grant or loan money to regional development authorities to assist businesses seeking to locate or expand in the state.
- Creates a Knowledge Fund to be used by the university system to provide funding for: 1) the recruitment, hiring and retention of faculty and teams to conduct research in science and technology; 2) research laboratories/equipment; 3) construction of research clinics, institutes, facilities, and related buildings; 4) matching funds for federal and private grants that further economic development; and 5) to establish a technology outreach program at strategic locations throughout the state.

Founded on the principles of innovation, sustainability, and inclusiveness, Nevada's economic platform and workforce development will be driven by technology and human ingenuity and facilitated by collaboration and strategic alliances.

#### Maximizing and Leveraging Federal and State Resources

In June of 2009, the Nevada State Legislature passed Senate Bill 239 which requires the GWIB to establish industry sector councils to identify job training and educational programs that assist in meeting regional economic development goals. Section I of this bill also requires the GWIB to identify and seek federal funding to provide grants to fund those job training and educational programs.

Governor Sandoval has partnered with the Education Reform Blue Ribbon Task Force, Legislative Leadership, and Catalyst Fund to sponsor a planning session for the Data Quality Campaign, to work with Nevada state policymakers and interested stakeholders to formulate a comprehensive plan for effective data use in Nevada's educational system. The planning session will explore the current state of Nevada's data system and its capacity, what is possible for Nevada's future, examples from leading states on how to best link and share data across agencies, information on state models and data governance structures, date privacy and security, and tools and resources for Nevada's education reform efforts

# Continuum of Education and Training

Governor Sandoval recognizes that education is the single most important economic investment. To underscore the importance of education to the Governor's overall agenda, public K-12 schools are the largest expenditure in the 2011-13 budget.

One of Governor Sandoval's major priorities is an improved alignment between the skills employers need and the education and state job training systems. Core to this priority is a system that not only identifies existing key sectors and anticipates future sector growth in Nevada, but is also able to act quickly and proactively to meet the skilled labor needs of employers.

Specifically, the sector strategy approach identifies workforce needs and aligns resources to promote the economic competitiveness of key industries. Sector strategies are a proven mechanism for meeting the needs of workers for family-sustaining jobs and the needs of employers for skilled workers.

Sector strategies are built on regional, demand-driven approaches to education, workforce and economic development in specific industries, and do the following:

- Focus attention on key industries, developing extensive knowledge about the industries' current, future and emerging workforce needs;
- Support alignment of K-12, technical colleges, universities, and training institutions; support alignment of curriculum and programs with industry needs; support modernization, technology transfer, and other economic development programs with industry needs;
- Promote education, training, and career ladder programs to help workers meet the demands of employers; and
- Facilitate the alignment of resources making it possible to work across funding streams.

The statistics below detail some of Nevada's workforce successes:

	1			
				Amount
Measure		Target	Actual	Exceeded
Adult Average Earning	s – Exiters	\$11,500.00		
Nevada Works				
	Great Basin College		\$16,979.42	\$5,479.42
	Disability Resources		\$16,747.27	\$5,247.27
WorkForce				
Connections				
	Bridge Counseling		\$15,687.14	\$4,187.14
	Easter Seals South Nv		\$14,143.05	\$2,643.05
	Native American Community			
	Services		\$13,266.55	\$1,766.55
	Nevada Partners		\$12,173.41	\$673.41
	Area Health Education Center of			
	Southern Nevada		\$13,433.94	\$1,933.94
Adult Employment Ret	ention – Exiters	70%		
Nevada Works			-	
	Great Basin College		100.0%	30.0%
	Join – Sparks		100.0%	30.0%
	Pronet		100.0%	30.0%
	Northern Nevada Painters		100.0%	30.0%
Workforce				
Connections				
	Native American Community			
	Services		76.9%	6.9%
Adult Entered Employn	nent – Exiters	63.0%		
Nevada Works			-	
	Childrens Cabinet		71.4%	8.4%
	Join Carson		66.7%	3.7%
	Join Sparks		100.0%	37.0%
	Fallon Industries		100.0%	37.0%
	Disability resources		81.8%	18.8%
WorkForce				
Connections				
	Native American Community			
	Services		82.4%	19.4%
	Nevada Partners- Henderson			
	Youth		100.0%	37.0%
	The Housing Authority of LV		63.6%	0.6%
DW Average earnings -	- Exiters	\$14,500		
Nevada Works			-	
	Bristlecone Family Resource		\$17,220.92	\$2,720.92
	CSA - Community Services			
	Agency		\$17,145.00	\$2,645.00

	Join- Fallon		\$15,914.44	\$1,414.44
	Join- Winnemucca		\$16,251.14	\$1,751.14
	Pronet		\$22,161.81	\$7,661.81
	SNCAT Sierra NV Community			
	Access		\$15,635.61	\$1,135.61
WorkForce				
Connections				
	Bridge Counseling Asoc		\$15,330.38	\$830.38
	Catholic Charities		\$15,157.21	\$657.21
	CHR Inc		\$15,159.00	\$659.00
	Easter Seals Southern Nv		\$17,391.97	\$2,891.97
	GBC Career Connections		\$14,575.84	\$75.84
	GNJ Family Life Center		\$22,995.78	\$8,495.78
	Native American Community		\$15,175.59	\$675.59
OW Employment Rete	ention – Exiters	80%		
Nevada Works			<del></del>	
	Join Sparks		87.50%	7.50%
	Join Winnemucca		82.40%	2.40%
Workforce Connec				
OW Entered Employn	nent – Exiters	70%		
Nevada Works				
	Career College of North NV		75.00%	5.00%
	CSA - Community Services			
	Agency		71.40%	1.40%
	Disability Resources, Inc		87.50%	17.50%
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Workforce Connect	ions		_	1710070
Youth Attainment of I	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	40.00%		1710070
	ions Degree or Certificate - Exiters	40.00%		17,100,70
Youth Attainment of I	Degree or Certificate - Exiters  Ace- Academy for Career	40.00%		
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education	40.00%	88.90%	48.90%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet	40.00%	88.90% 73.30%	
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile	40.00%	73.30%	48.90% 33.30%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation	40.00%	73.30% 58.30%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50%
Youth Attainment of I Nevada Works	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00%
Youth Attainment of I	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall ions	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00% 80.00% 100.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00% 40.00% 60.00%
Youth Attainment of I Nevada Works	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall ions Help of Southern Nevada	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00% 80.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00%
Youth Attainment of I Nevada Works	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall ions Help of Southern Nevada Nevada Partners Henderson	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00% 100.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00% 60.00%
Youth Attainment of I Nevada Works	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall ions Help of Southern Nevada Nevada Partners Henderson Youth	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00% 100.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00% 60.00%
Youth Attainment of I Nevada Works  Workforce Connect	Ace- Academy for Career Education Childrens Cabinet Churchill County Juvenile Probation Communities in Schools of Nv Deans Future Scholars Join - Carson Join - Elko Join - Reno Join - Winnemucca City of Reno City Hall ions Help of Southern Nevada Nevada Partners Henderson	40.00%	73.30% 58.30% 57.10% 94.40% 80.00% 87.50% 80.00% 100.00%	48.90% 33.30% 18.30% 17.10% 54.40% 40.00% 47.50% 40.00% 60.00%

AC	E-Academy for	Career			
	ication			75.00%	35.00%
Dea	ans Future Scholars			94.10%	54.10%
Join	n Carson			53.20%	13.20%
Join	ı Elko			75.00%	35.00%
Join	n Fernley			66.70%	26.70%
Join	n Winnemucca			66.70%	26.70%
City	y of Reno City Hall			100.00%	60.00%
Workforce					
Connections					
GN	J Family Life Cente	er		75.00%	35.00%
Hel	p of Southern Neva	da		50.00%	10.00%
Nev	vada Partners	Henderson			
You	ıth			83.30%	43.30%
Nev	vada Partners			50.70%	10.70%
Nye	e Communities Coa	lition		42.90%	2.90%
Youth Literacy and Numerac	cy Gains		29%		
Nevada Works					
Join	n Fernley			100.00%	71.00%
Workforce					
Connections					
Oli	ve Crest			100.00%	71.00%

Engaging Key Players to Address Challenges

Governor Sandoval recognizes that Nevada has significant workforce challenges. His vision for collaboration will soon be reflected in the new membership of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. A majority of the membership will continue to represent private-sector businesses. The new vision entails taking a new look at workforce challenges, bringing together members from the private sector, government, education, Legislature and many other stakeholders to explore and implement innovative approaches and then measure the success.

His vision for collaboration brings together economic development regions, the private sector, and various workforce development partners to address workforce challenges and invest resources toward the same goals. In order to address the challenges of many people being served by other workforce partners outside of the One-Stop system who train people to meet the needs of employers, the Governor will continue to engage in collaborative efforts with community-based organizations. Through enhanced collaboration and greater alignment, Nevada will promote a well-coordinated system that is ready to assist workers, employers and other key stakeholders.

The Governor's plan will be implemented, in part, through the state's workforce investment system. In order to better inform job seekers and employers about resources available through the workforce system. Nevada created a single affiliate brand known as, "Nevada JobConnect", a proud partner of American Job Center, linking state and local workforce partners. The Governor's Workforce Investment Board then developed and deployed a statewide marketing campaign to advance the brand identity of "Nevada JobConnect."

TEGL 36-11 requires the publicly funded workforce system to either change their current branding to "America Job Center Network" or to co-brand existing state and local workforce system with the phrase: "proud partner of the America Job Center Network."

#### **Implementation:**

The State of Nevada has taken the following steps to implement these requirements:

- All websites that display Nevada's workforce system logo, JobConnect, will also display "proud partner of the America Job Center Network"
- Instruction has been given to anyone within the JobConnect system who controls forms, brochures or publications to add the "proud partner of the America Job Center Network" logo when new supply is printed
- TEGL 36-11 was distributed to Local Workforce Investment Boards to inform them of their responsibility to implement the requirements of TEGL 36-11
- o In the future when building signage is replaced or upgraded, the "proud partner of the America Job Center Network" logo will be added

Nevada's businesses, their employees, job seekers, students, training providers, workforce customer service representatives and professionals have unlimited access to online employment services virtually anywhere at any time. Job seekers can use the site to build resumes, research careers and wages and find jobs - all at no cost. Businesses have access to candidate search and screening services including Nevada's largest database of job seeker resumes, also at no cost.

It is also part of the Governor's vision to establish co-located Nevada JobConnect centers on the campuses of two of Nevada's largest community colleges – Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno and College of Southern Nevada in Las Vegas.

#### **Ensuring Youth Opportunity**

As part of the overarching workforce priorities, the Governor is focusing on aligning the school system's curricula with the education and training needed for successful job placements.

Additional educational options for K-12 is a priority. The Governor will also have his cabinet strategize to coordinate and augment the common activities related to the workforce goals to ensure alignment of policies and funding. The core functions of "Education and Workforce Development" are the target of collaborative strategic planning being conducted by the heads of DETR, Nevada System of Higher Education, and the Department of Education.

These activities will augment existing programs and services to serve youth, such as work permit activities, information sharing on minimum wage, and career exploration activities.

**State Workforce Investment Priorities** 

Governor Sandoval has identified some key workforce investment priorities for the State's workforce investment system that will lead to the actualization of his vision for workforce and economic development in Nevada. Governor Sandoval's priorities are as follows:

- An integrated, seamless service delivery system where all of the mandated partners are actively participating in the Workforce Investment System through co-location, single point of service and a shared vision.
- A demand-driven workforce system focused on meeting the talent needs of high-growth, high demand industries within a regional development context where individuals are trained with an awareness of the skill sets necessary for specified State, regional, and locally targeted industries.
- Customers being given the opportunity to make informed choices regarding work and training based on quality workforce information including pay, benefits and local economic issues.

Of primary importance, the Governor proposed and worked closely with the leaders of the state legislature to pass legislation that will completely overhaul the state's economic development program. Assembly Bill 449 which passed during Nevada's 2011 Legislative session creates a structure for economic development programs in the state. This bill included the following objectives for the Governors Workforce Investment Board:

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board shall:

### (a) Identify:

- (1) Industry sectors which are essential to this State; and
- (2) The region or regions of this State where the majority of the operations of each of those industry sectors is conducted.

#### (b) Establish:

- (1) Regional goals for economic development for each of the industry sectors identified pursuant to paragraph (a); and
- (2) A council for each industry sector.
- (c) Consider and develop programs to promote:
  - (1) Strategies to improve labor markets for industries and regions of this State, including, without limitation, improving the availability of relevant information;
  - (2) Coordination of the efforts of relevant public and private agencies and organizations;
  - (3) Strategies for providing funding as needed by various industry sectors;
  - (4) Increased production capacities for various industry sectors;
  - (5) The development of useful measurements of performance and outcomes in various industry sectors;
  - (6) Participation by and assistance from state and local government agencies;
  - (7) Expanded market penetration, including, without limitation, by providing assistance to employers with small numbers of employees;
  - (8) Partnerships between labor and management;
  - (9) Business associations;
  - (10) The development of improved instructional and educational resources for employers and employees; and
  - (11) The development of improved economies of scale, as applicable, in industry sectors.

Each industry sector council established

- (a) Must be composed of representatives from:
  - (1) Employers within that industry;

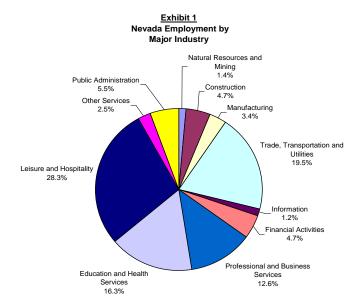
- (2) Organized labor within that industry;
- (3) Universities and community colleges; and
- (4) Any other relevant group of persons deemed to be appropriate by the Board.
- (b) Shall, within the parameters set forth in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 or the parameters of any other program for which the federal funding is available, identify job training and education programs which the industry sector council determines to have the greatest likelihood of meeting the regional goals for economic development established for that industry sector.

Economic and Workforce Information Analysis: The Integrated Workforce Plan must describe the labor market and economic context in which the state's workforce system (including all the programs in the Integrated Workforce Plan) is operating, based on accurate and timely labor-market, demographic, and economic information, with particular attention given to high-need, under-served, under-employed, and/or low-skilled subpopulations. (WIA Sections 112(b)(4), 112(b)(17)(A)(iv), 112(b)(18), W-P Sections 8(b) and 15.) This description should include an assessment of the needs of constituents within the state who will become, or currently comprise, the state's workforce, particularly those needs which can be addressed by the programs included in the Integrated Workforce Plan.

The state's analysis of the current economy and future trends of the economy forms the foundation for strategic planning. Using the workforce information produced by the state workforce agency, other data available from Federal, state, and private sector sources, and informed by the business representatives of the state workforce investment board (SWIB), the Integrated Workforce Plan must include the following specific information, consistent with Section 112(b)(4) of the Act:

- An assessment of the current situation and projected trends of the state's economy, industries and occupations, including major economic regions and sectors within the state and across state lines
- An assessment of the workforce skills and knowledge individuals need to find current and future employment in the state, particularly those skills and knowledge identified by employers as necessary for economic growth in the state
- A description of the characteristics and needs of the state's population, and diverse sub-populations, including those from racial, ethnic, linguistic groups, older persons, and individuals with disabilities
- An assessment of the skill and education gaps for all individuals within the state, particularly for those individuals targeted by the programs included in the Integrated Workforce Plan
- An analysis of the challenges associated with the state's population attaining the education, skills, and training needed to obtain employment
- A discussion of the ability of Integrated Workforce Plan programs to meet the skill needs of employers in the state and close any skill gaps

#### **State's Economic Base by Industry**



#### Exhibit 1

Exhibit 1 reflects that the Nevada economy is dominated by the leisure and hospitality industry. Leisure and hospitality directly provides more than one-fourth of the state's employment (28.3%). The casino hotels and gaming component of the industry provides about two-thirds of all leisure and hospitality jobs, and its effects are evident in other sectors as well. For example, firms that support the gaming industry dominate Nevada's relatively small manufacturing sector. A listing of the state's top ten manufacturers includes several firms that manufacture gaming devices and gaming related technology.

Included in trade, transportation & utilities, the retail trade industry also provides significant economic impact to the economy. The more than 30 million tourists who visit the state sustain a large portion of the retail sector. Approximately 11 percent of total employment can be found in the retail trade sector.

The mining industry is the economic engine in many of Nevada's rural counties. Nevada is one of the world's largest gold producers. The state produces large quantities of silver and copper as well. Although the metal mining industry provides 1.4 percent of the direct employment in the state, its economic impact is significantly greater. Wages are also significantly higher, as the metal mining industry paid an average annual wage of \$85,907 in 2010, more than double the all-industry average of \$42,536.

Following the 2001 recession, the construction industry boomed in Nevada. The state recorded double-digit gains in construction employment growth throughout 2004 and 2005. However,

the housing slowdown that began in the first half of 2006 brought construction growth to a halt. It has since continued to decline. From providing 11 percent of the state's total employment in 2006, the construction industry only accounts for 4.7 percent today.

### **Industry and Occupation Projections**

In recent months, Nevada's much maligned economy has begun to stabilize, and a number of sectors are beginning to add employment. The unemployment rate peaked in 2010 and has declined to 13.1 percent through the first 10 months of 2011. Despite the improvement, the near term economic outlook for Nevada remains stagnant, and the economy will struggle to add jobs in the early stages of the recovery. Overall, expectations are that Nevada's employment base will grow by 0.75 percent in 2011, 0.85 percent in 2012, and 0.95 percent in 2013. This equates to a 30,000 job increase over the projection period. While the employment picture is improving, it is a far cry from the growth seen during the most recent expansionary period.

# Exhibit 2

# Nevada Employment Growth by Industry 2011-2013 (In Percent)

**Total Employment Growth** 

			II GIOWH
Industry	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Accommodation and Food Services	0.37%	0.56%	0.85%
Retail trade	3.65%	3.98%	4.12%
Construction	0.19%	0.32%	0.43%
Health Care and Social Assistance	-0.32%	-0.49%	-0.28%
Administrative and Support and Waste Management			
and Remediation Services	-0.13%	0.50%	0.64%
Education	0.25%	0.41%	0.51%
Government	0.81%	0.75%	0.68%
Transportation & warehousing	0.38%	0.54%	0.50%
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	-0.03%	0.43%	0.50%
Manufacturing	-0.75%	0.33%	0.45%
Wholesale trade	-1.30%	-0.65%	-0.36%
Finance & insurance	-1.08%	0.22%	0.44%
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	1.12%	0.82%	0.77%
Other services	2.88%	1.03%	0.86%
Real estate & rental & leasing	-0.62%	-0.43%	-0.22%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	1.75%	1.96%	2.38%
Information	0.91%	1.38%	1.55%
Mining	1.44%	1.65%	1.66%
Utilities	0.33%	0.46%	0.55%
Agriculture	-0.19%	-0.33%	-0.10%
TOTAL ALL INDUSTRY	0.75%	0.85%	0.95%

Source: DETR/Research and Analysis Bureau.

Exhibit 3 shows the long term expectations for growth in Nevada. Through 2018, all but five of the twenty major industry groups expect employment increases, with six being over ten percent.

Expect Nevada's growth to lag the national growth rate in the short term and exceed it in the long term. With the value of gold at an all time high, the mining sector will show the largest growth rate in the long term. The projected employment growth from 2008-2018 is 20.62 percent.

Nevada's dominant industries will provide the largest number of jobs through 2018. This includes: Retail trade (13 percent job gain over the period), health care and social assistance (19 percent), accommodation and food services (4 percent), professional, scientific, and technical services (13 percent), manufacturing (13 percent), and wholesale trade (15 percent).

Five industries are predicted to have a negative growth rate. These are: Construction (-2 percent), government (-1 percent), information (-3 percent), art, entertainment, and recreation (-0.5 percent), and utilities (-2 percent). Real estate, rental, and leasing are predicted to barely grow in the long term (1 percent).

Exhibit 3

Nevada Employment Gains and % Growth by Industry (2008-2018)

			New	%
Industry	2008	2018	Jobs	Growth
Mining	12,116	14,614	2,498	20.62%
Health Care and Social Assistance	96,115	114,214	18,099	18.83%
Wholesale trade	37,343	43,128	5,785	15.49%
Professional, Scientific, and				
Technical Services	52,980	60,101	7,121	13.44%
Retail trade	138,316	156,808	18,492	13.37%
Manufacturing	48,116	54,184	6,068	12.61%
Transportation & warehousing	49,322	53,852	4,530	9.18%
Agriculture	10,223	11,010	787	7.70%
Administrative and Support and				
Waste Management and				
Remediation Services	78,508	84,292	5,784	7.37%
Other services	36,091	38,564	2,473	6.85%
Education	75,563	79,613	4,050	5.36%
Accommodation and Food				
Services	303,459	315,466	12,007	3.96%
Management of Companies and				
Enterprises	17,715	18,199	484	2.73%
Real estate & rental & leasing	26,058	26,294	236	0.91%
Finance & insurance	35,134	35,414	280	0.80%
Arts, Entertainment, and				
Recreation	29,060	28,908	-152	-0.52%
Government	80,013	79,204	-809	-1.01%
Construction	115,929	114,021	-1,908	-1.65%
Utilities	4,584	4,488	-96	-2.09%
Information	14,919	14,447	-472	-3.16%

Source: DETR/Research and Analysis Bureau.

Occupational growth in the short term will remain sluggish while long term projections show it will pick up again by 2018. The largest number of available jobs will continue to be found in the low- and semi-skilled occupations required by employers in the leisure and hospitality and retail trade industries. These occupations include jobs such as cashier, waiter/waitress, retail sales, gaming dealer, bartender, food server, office clerks, account clerks, hotel desk clerks and laborers (see Exhibit 4).

Some of the fastest growing occupations are not in the two largest industries. Many of these occupations would provide new jobs that require a higher level of preparation and would be higher paying. Although not providing the greatest number of new jobs, these occupations provide new opportunities. They include educators (special education teachers, postsecondary vocational education teachers, adult literacy teachers), health care workers (pharmacists, respiratory therapists, pharmacy technicians, medical assistants), and computer-related occupations (network and data communications analysts, network administrators, computer software engineers, computer specialists, computer systems and information managers, computer systems analysts).

Exhibit 4

Nevada Total Annual Openings by Occupation 2008-2018

Occupation	2008 Emp	2018 Emp	Total Annual Openings	Average Annual Growth	2011 Average Hourly Wage
Food Preparation and Serving Related					
Occupations	167,532	178,383	7,724	6.5%	\$11.77
Sales and Related Occupations	139,571	154,281	6,188	10.5%	\$15.59
Office and Administrative Support					
Occupations	213,525	212,738	5,854	-0.4%	\$16.09
Food and Beverage Serving Workers	85,327	91,028	4,631	6.7%	\$10.60
Retail Sales Workers	84,267	93,383	4,446	10.8%	\$11.70
Transportation and Material Moving					
Occupations	94,352	101,276	2,880	7.3%	\$16.52
Construction and Extraction					
Occupations	114,675	116,976	2,736	2.0%	\$25.43
Personal Care and Service					
Occupations	77,607	82,447	2,602	6.2%	\$12.24
Retail Salespersons	43,198	50,273	2,278	16.4%	\$12.22
Management Occupations	76,795	84,692	2,224	10.3%	\$45.27
Waiters and Waitresses	39,264	40,302	2,124	2.6%	\$10.70
Building and Grounds Cleaning and					
Maintenance Occupations	75,969	79,420	1,874	4.5%	\$13.10
Construction Trades Workers	85,125	86,492	1,810	1.6%	\$24.84
Cashiers	33,007	34,869	1,792	5.6%	\$10.58
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical					
Occupations	46,577	55,853	1,785	19.9%	\$39.67
Installation, Maintenance, and Repair	53,148	58,207	1,737	9.5%	\$22.38

Occupations					
Information and Record Clerks	51,338	53,807	1,670	4.8%	\$14.82
Production Occupations	46,018	50,624	1,615	10.0%	\$16.24
Combined Food Preparation and					
Serving Workers, Including Fast food	27,382	31,343	1,583	14.5%	\$9.63
Cooks and Food Preparation Workers	37,208	40,733	1,544	9.5%	\$12.50
Education, Training, and Library					
Occupations	52,914	56,871	1,485	7.5%	\$22.55
Material Moving Workers	41,548	43,698	1,453	5.2%	\$13.83
Entertainment Attendants and Related					
Workers	35,878	37,420	1,370	4.3%	\$9.27
Building Cleaning and Pest Control					
Workers	57,333	59,641	1,366	4.0%	\$12.65
Health Diagnosing and Treating					
Practitioners	30,007	36,028	1,181	20.1%	\$48.29
Business and Financial Operations					
Occupations	39,191	43,839	1,176	11.9%	\$29.99
Protective Service Occupations	39,755	39,226	1,145	-1.3%	\$19.74
Material Recording, Scheduling,					
Dispatching, and Distribution	36,749	34,932	1,140	-4.9%	\$15.03
Financial Clerks	40,356	41,051	1,137	1.7%	\$16.27
Other Food Preparation and Serving					
Related Workers	32,392	32,931	1,124	1.7%	\$11.48

#### **Demand Industries and Occupations**

Of the 11 occupations in Nevada that provide more than 2,000 jobs openings annually (shown in Exhibit 4), only office and administrative support occupations (5,854), personal care and service occupations (2,602), construction and extraction occupations (2,736), and management occupations (2,224) require more than short-term on-the-job training. However, there is a demand for skilled workers in the Nevada economy. Some of these occupations include healthcare practitioners and technical occupations (1,785), production occupations (1,615), education, training, and library occupations (1,485), health diagnosing and treating practitioners (1,181), business and finance operations occupations (1,176), and financial clerks (1,137).

## **Jobs/Occupations Critical to the State's Economy**

As discussed earlier, tourism is the driving force in the Nevada economy. Jobs in leisure and hospitality, coupled with retail trade, are the primary revenue generating industries in Nevada. The predominate occupations in those industries include: gaming workers, housekeepers, food service workers, retail salespersons, janitors and cleaners, retail sales managers/supervisors, and gaming supervisors.

To meet the need of a growing and aging population, health care occupations are also in-demand and critical. These include registered nurses, respiratory therapists, and pharmacists. Mining is the main employment driver for Nevada's rural areas. Occupations in the mining sector include: engineers, laborers, and general business operations.

General business operations have also contributed to many occupation demands. These jobs

include: general office clerks, security guards, customer service representative, general and operations managers, and bookkeeping/accounting/audit clerks. The logistics of getting materials to production centers, as well as getting parts and manufactured products tracked and distributed to global marketplaces, are essential to Nevada's warehousing and distribution industry. Top occupations in Nevada's transportation industry include: truck drivers (both heavy and light truck), bus drivers (both school and transit), business operations specialists, general operations managers, cargo and freight agents, dispatchers, customer service representatives, bus and truck mechanics, and diesel engine specialists.

# **Assessing Sector-Specific Critical Needs**

The Department's sector-driven efforts, discussed throughout this Plan, will be guided by labor market information and intelligence. Specifically, the various sectors have been identified, defined, and quantified utilizing available labor market information resources, as shown below.

Exhibit 5 displays the projected employment changes in the seven sectors identified in Nevada as having strong growth potential. The seven sector are (1) Aerospace and Defense, (2) Business Information Technology, (3) Clean Energy, (4) Health and Medical Services, (5) Logistics and Operations, (6) Mining, Materials and Manufacturing, and (7) Tourism, Gaming and Entertainment.

Exhibit 5

Five Year Projected Job Level Changes in Nevada's Seven Sectors Identified for Growth

Description	2012 Jobs	2017 Jobs	Change
Health and Medical Services	90,531	103,046	12,515
Tourism, Gaming, and Entertainment	380,898	388,940	8,042
Logistics and Operations	65,475	69,965	4,490
Business Information Technology Ecosystems	48,770	52,204	3,434
Mining, Materials and Manufacturing	41,194	42,829	1,635
Aerospace and Defense	12,845	13,439	594
Clean Energy	22,295	21,891	-404

Source: EMSI Covered Employment - 2012.3

In reference to the strategically defined industries in Exhibit 5, recent trends indicate that the health and medical services sectors will add the most jobs from 2012 to 2017. Compared with the rest of the nation, Nevada has about two-thirds the health care workers expected given our current population level, indicating room for expansion. A more traditional job producing component of Nevada's economy, the tourism, gaming and entertainment, has the second highest potential to produce jobs over the next five years.

As the various sector councils become active, they will be tasked with identifying critical needs (skills gaps, workforce training voids, the establishment of critical partnerships, etc.) specific to individual sectors in light of future expectations. Currently available resources will be utilized, and, to the extent possible, any remaining information gaps will be addressed via additional intelligence gathering (i.e., through sector surveys, focus group-type settings, etc.) This work on the part of the sector councils will be undertaken in partnership with the Department and other workforce development entities.

#### **Current and Projected Demographics of the Available Labor Force**

Currently the labor force includes more than 1.3 million people. The unemployment rate has ranged between 12.1 percent and 14.9 percent since the end of the national recession in June 2009. Labor force growth has declined by about -0.5 percent annually over the past year, however it has stopped declining and remains stagnant over the last 5 months. According to the 2010 Census, a vast majority of the labor force (66.2 percent) is white, while 26.5 percent are Hispanic, 8.1 percent Black, 7.2 percent Asian and some other race 12 percent.

The Nevada State Demographer estimates that the population will grow by approximately 413,729 people over the 2011-2021 periods, with gains nearly equally divided between males and females. Nevada's primary labor pool, those age 19 to 64, will grow from 1.66 million to 1.84 million, an increase of more than 180,000 potential full-time workers. The pre-school and school age population is expected to increase by more than 80,000, while senior citizens, the 65-and-over population, should grow by more than 160,000. Hispanics, currently are about one-fourth of the state's population, should account for about 117,800 of the 413,729 new residents.

# In-migration and Out-migration of Workers that Impact the Labor Pool

Nevada led the nation in the cumulative rate of population and labor force growth from the 1980s until the most recent recession. However, since the start of the Great Recession Nevada's "in migration" has come to a halt and some evidence suggest an "out migration" is taking place to some extent. In the last two years, Nevada's labor force has fallen considerably. Since February 2010, Nevada's labor force fell by 44,000 workers. It is assumed that many of those workers have left the state to seek employment elsewhere. Additionally, the state demographer predicts a population decline of roughly 38,000 in 2011 before returning to slow to moderate growth in 2012.

#### **Skill Gaps**

It is apparent that the labor force will have difficulty in meeting all of our projected employer skill needs. When reviewing the Knowledge, Skills and Work Activities (KSAs) of the high demand occupations, the most basic of job requirements come to the forefront. The top 10 Knowledge sets of Nevada high-demand occupations ranked by the potential skills gap include:

- Customer and personal service
- Mathematics
- English language
- Clerical
- Sales and marketing
- Education and training
- Administration and management
- Mechanical
- Building and construction
- Psychology

The top 10 Work Activities that will be important for those in the high-demand area of the labor force include:

- Establishing and maintaining interpersonal relationships
- Handling and moving objects
- Working directly with the public
- Communication with other workers
- Getting the information to do the job
- Organizing, planning and prioritizing work
- Updating and using job-relevant knowledge
- Performing general physical activities to do the job
- Monitoring processes, materials or surroundings
- Making decision and solving problems

These knowledge and activities are not surprising given the nature of Nevada's high demand occupations in the tourism, health care, education and mining industries. They are ranked in order of the potential skills gap over the decade.

# **Skill Gaps Assessment**

- DETR has invested in assessment tools that will allow the workforce and higher education systems to assess a job seeker's skill gaps and determine an individual's ability to be retrained in one of the high demand sectors within the state.
- If the assessment determines that an individual needs soft skill or remedial training, tools and classes will be provided through newly established career centers, in conjunction with the system of higher education, or WIA providers.
- Additional state funding will be leveraged with federal workforce dollars to get individuals, with the ability to complete the training, funds to pursue short-term certificate training in the 8 sectors identified by the state as high growth industries.
- The eight sector councils, with the assistance of labor market data, will be tasked with identifying the career pathways for individuals that need retraining as well as youth entering the workforce.
- The state has embarked, in partnership with the Nevada System of Higher Education, on customized training programs that bring employers to the table on the front end using their resources to provide internships while individuals are provided short-term technical training. This model has been very successful as a pilot program in the manufacturing arena and we now intend to roll it out to the other identified sectors as opportunities arise.

#### **State Identified Workforce Development Issues**

In the southern Nevada workforce investment area, the issues associated with the needs of employers and job seekers were identified primarily from statistical data derived from the Nevada Career Information System (NCIS) study of the most demanded occupations. In a study released in April of 2011, the following occupations were deemed the highest demand (based on the degree of training or education needed):

- Bachelors degree or higher
  - o General and Operations managers
  - o Managers, All Other
  - o Business Operations Specialists, All Other
  - Accountants and auditors
  - o Property, Community/Real Estate Association Managers
- Associate degree or other formal training
  - Gaming dealers
  - Registered nurses
  - Automotive Service Technicians/Mechanics
  - o Nursing Aids, Orderlies and Attendants
  - Computer Support Specialists
- Moderate to long term OJT
  - o Cooks, Restaurant
  - Customer Service Representatives
  - Sales Reps Manufacturing/Wholesale, except Technical
  - o Maintenance and repair workers, General
  - o Truck Drivers, Heavy/Tractor Trailer
- Short term OJT
  - Retail salespeople
  - Waiters and Waitresses
  - o Cashiers
  - o Food Preparation and Serving Workers
  - o Freight, Stock, and Material Movers

#### Issues for the workforce system included:

- Will the reduced levels of funding available be sufficient to meet goals and objectives and to activate the strategies necessary to provide connections between students and their potential employers?
- What advances in career/vocational/technical education are needed to ensure that Nevada's youth, particularly needy youth, are prepared for the workplace and succeed in their academic and career goals?
- Can the transition between academic /required basic classes and career/vocational/technical education be made seamless so that all students receive the same basic education yet those who elect to benefit from the career path can more easily transition into the workforce while those who elect to achieve higher levels of academic and/or professional education attain specific/advanced levels of skills in traditional areas?
- How can WIA youth investments be refocused on youth most in need?
- How can development and delivery of workforce information be improved so as to support workforce investment boards in their strategic planning and investments?
- How can tools and products that support business growth and economic development be developed?
- How can One-Stop Career Centers help to provide better quality career guidance directly to students and job seekers and their counselors?
- What career pathways and training opportunities are available for workers to make the

- transition to higher paying jobs?
- Given that resources are shrinking, what additional efforts and applications of new technology are possible if it is desirable to build stronger relationships among workforce development providers?
- How do we better connect students to employers and employers to sources of students and other potential employees?

Workforce development issues identified in Nevada center around the high unemployment levels fueling a need for employers to hiring excess skilled and unskilled workers throughout the State. The construction industry and housing market continue to decline but the accommodation and food services industry has come back while the national economy improves and visitors are entering the State once again.

Rural Nevada counties are experiencing substantial growth in population and new business expansions. The mining industry is thriving and remains an important rural area employment opportunity. The northern Nevada Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA) continues to support rural county economies through funding to support four rural workforce liaisons initiatives, which provide:

- The northern Nevada LWIA up-to-date information on workforce development challenges
- Economic development efforts and achievements
- Coordination of workforce development activities and NJC services in Mineral, Lander, Pershing and Storey counties

A major issue that Nevada faces in the coming years is stagnant growth. Major impacts are being felt in construction (a result of excess housing supply left over from the housing market crash), the housing sector while it attempts to recover from the most recent recession, and the public sector dealing with continued budget cuts and a restructuring across the board.

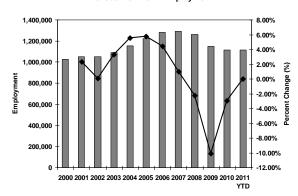
#### **Workforce Development Priorities Critical for Economic Health and Growth**

The state places a priority on targeting high growth industries and allocating appropriate resources to develop job seeker and incumbent worker skills to meet the demands of these industries.

Ensuring the continued availability of a qualified workforce for new and expanding businesses will be one of the state's biggest challenges in the coming years. Providing jobs for the unemployed and discouraged labor force is also going to be a critical challenge. Adequate transportation systems, and availability of affordable housing (in Rural Nevada) and medical care will also impact the economic health and growth of the state. The Nevada JobConnect system will be challenged to expand its menu of services beyond the traditional employment and training programs into a strategic approach to workforce development that seeks to bridge the gap between the supply of jobs and the demand for skilled labor.

#### **Economic and Labor Market Context**

#### **Nevada Non-Farm Employment**



Nevada's non-farm employment peaked at 1,303,800 in May 2007. Employment steadily declined throughout 2007, 2008, 2009 and sporadically in 2010 and the beginning of 2011. During the second half of 2009, employment levels began to recede more rapidly even as the national recession began to moderate. From June 2009 to June 2011, employment fell by roughly 27,000 or 2.4%. Nevada recently has seen a bit of an improvement in job growth. Through the third quarter of 2011, Nevada has gained 7,400 jobs on a year-over-year basis.

Nearly all industry sectors have lost jobs in the current recession. Only mining and health services have defied recessionary pressures. Despite recent stability the public sector and financial activities continue to shed jobs. State, county and local governments shed about 5,100 jobs and financial activities lost 4,400 jobs relative to a year ago.

Construction job levels continue to recede as well. The construction industry has steadily lost jobs since peaking at 148,800 in June 2006. Initially, losses were contained to the residential sector, but the credit market freeze and falling visitor demand continue to adversely affect commercial construction. Many large scale developments have been scaled back, put on hold or cancelled all together. Through October of 2011, construction industry employment totaled 56,800, a decline of 2,800 from the same month a year ago.

The current downturn has impacted nearly every industry in Nevada. Nevada's industrial base does not appear likely to change considerably, making it difficult to identify future growth industries. If history is any indicator, overall employment growth will remain stagnant until conditions improve in the construction industries. It is likely Nevada's economy will recover once construction employment picks up. There have been improvements recently in the leisure and hospitality sector due to increasing visitor volume. Job losses in the construction sector have also begun to lesson. Nevada has been in a state of stagnant employment growth but will probably experience some small gains throughout the approaching program year.

Nevada Employment Projections by Industry -Year-Over-Year Percent Change

	Tear Over Tear refeelt change			
Naics				
Code	Industry Title	2011	2012	2013
11	Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting	0.53%	0.56%	0.45%
21	Mining	10.97%	7.64%	7.86%
			-	-
22	Utilities	-2.45%	0.58%	0.44%
			-	-
23	Construction	-12.73%	7.17%	5.29%
31-33	Manufacturing	0.64%	0.99%	0.62%
			-	
42	Wholesale Trade	-0.34%	0.04%	0.13%
44/45	Retail Trade	1.07%	0.96%	0.94%
48/49	Transportation and Warehousing	3.31%	3.15%	2.57%
51	Information	0.42%	0.48%	0.48%
			-	-
52	Finance and Insurance	-2.57%	1.87%	2.49%
			-	-
53	Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	-0.21%	0.15%	0.19%
54	Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	0.12%	0.55%	0.93%
55	Management of Companies and Enterprises	0.43%	0.56%	0.42%
	Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt. & Rem.			
56	Services	4.82%	4.25%	3.93%
61	Educational Services	1.43%	1.88%	3.01%
62	Health Care and Social Assistance	2.44%	2.30%	2.32%
71	Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	4.48%	2.69%	1.53%
72	Accommodation and Food Services	2.53%	1.58%	1.09%
81	Other Services	2.74%	2.15%	2.02%
			-	-
92	Public Administration	-5.11%	3.59%	2.75%
00	Total Employment, All Jobs	0.75%	0.95%	1.00%

The mining industry continues to benefit from high gold prices. Exploration and production are expected to grow while the global economy continues to struggle and while investor confidence remains at all time lows. Gains in gold mining will be bolstered by increasing demand for other commodities, such as copper and molybdenum, whose futures are tied to the global economic recovery. Overall, the industry should continue to grow.

Employment in Healthcare has increased by 4,300 since October 2010, reaching an all time high of 96,400 in late 2011. Despite recent losses in wealth and income, Nevadans continue to demand increased services, likely due to a historical gap in service availability caused by rapid population growth. In the year 2000, there were 34 Nevadans for every healthcare and social assistance worker. By 2010, that ratio had declined to 29.6 Nevadans for every healthcare and social assistance worker; however it is considerably higher than the U.S. as a whole, where there are 18.8 Americans for every health care and social assistance worker. Changes in Nevada's

demographics favor continued growth in the industry as well. As the population ages, more services will be required. The industry as a whole is expected to grow 2.44 percent in 2011 and an additional 2.3 percent in 2012. The increase will add roughly 2,334 jobs to Nevada's economy.

Based on results from the monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) (a monthly Census Bureau survey encompassing approximately 50,000 households in the nation, about 1,000 of which are in Nevada), the recession continues to impact Nevada's population differently based on demographics. Due to the nature of the recession, particularly the negative effect on the construction sector, traditionally male dominated industry men have a significantly higher unemployment rate than women. The unemployment rate for the State's male population averaged about 14.9 percent in October 2011. The female unemployment rate over the same period is 11.8 percent, a 3.1 percentage point difference.

Race and ethnicity also appears to affect the likelihood that an individual is unemployed. The unemployment rate for the State's Black population was 20.1 percent in October 2011. The unemployment rate for the State's Hispanic population was roughly 15.2 percent, and the unemployment rate for the State's White population was 12.7 percent over the same period.

By age group, the recession has negatively affected workers of all ages. The unemployment rate has doubled for nearly every age group, except younger workers. The youngest and least experienced workers in the labor force have to compete with older more experienced workers for jobs than have traditionally gone to new labor market entrants. While the unemployment rate for most workers is hovering around 12 percent, the unemployment rate for workers 16 to 24 was 22.6 percent in October 2011.

The Nevada State Demographer estimates that the population will grow by approximately 413,729 people over the 2011-2021 periods, with gains nearly equally divided between males and females. Nevada's primary labor pool, those age 19 to 64, will grow from 1.66 million to 1.84 million, an increase of more than 180,000 potential full-time workers. The pre-school and school age population is expected to increase by more than 80,000, while senior citizens, the 65-and-over population, should grow by more than 160,000. Hispanics, currently less than one-fourth of the state's population, should account for about 117,800 of the 413,729 new residents.

Given that roughly 176,445 Nevadans are currently unemployed from across most industries and occupations, it is likely there is an oversupply of most skills as opposed to gaps. A very tight job market will allow employers to be selective about potential hires. The challenge for employers will be finding the individual whose skills best match open positions.

The following list is a cross section of Nevada's demand occupation list. The list is derived from a 10 year projection, 2008-2018. All the occupations require less than a bachelor's degree and have above average expected growth and wages.

SOC		Hourly
Code	Occupation Title	Wage
100000	Total, All Occupations	\$19.82
173026	Industrial Engineering Technicians	21.38
232011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	24.8
292021	Dental Hygienists	40.35
	Veterinary Technologists and Technicians	16.86
312021	Physical Therapist Assistants	26.34
292032	Diagnostic Medical Sonographers	34.28
271022	Fashion Designers	20.05
292071	Medical Records and Health Information Technicians	17.73
499062	Medical Equipment Repairers	23.47
291111	Registered Nurses	36.21
292012	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians	18.53
	Recreational Vehicle Service Technicians	17.29
	Craft Artists	17.53
493052	Motorcycle Mechanics	17.47
513011	Bakers	13.46
513021	Butchers and Meat Cutters	15.58
319091	Dental Assistants	15.71
319092	Medical Assistants	15.51
514061	Model Makers, Metal and Plastic	19.42
512091	Fiberglass Laminators and Fabricators	15.47
292052	Pharmacy Technicians	16.46
475049	Mining Machine Operators, All Other	28.39
	Sales Representatives, Wholesale and Manufacturing, Technical and Scientific	
414011	Products	47.88
514081	Multiple Machine Tool Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	12.82
514191	Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators, and Tenders, Metal and Plastic	17.44
312022	Physical Therapist Aides	12.46
513022	Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	11.67
399021	Personal and Home Care Aides	10.32
311011	Home Health Aides	11.06
519031	Cutters and Trimmers, Hand	13.99
512022	Electrical and Electronic Equipment Assemblers	17.35
513091	Food and Tobacco Roasting, Baking, and Drying Machine Operators and Tenders	14.04
319095	Pharmacy Aides	10.83
475081	HelpersExtraction Workers	18.83
434111	Interviewers, Except Eligibility and Loan	14.43

A large proportion of new jobs in the coming years will be in healthcare and related fields. In the healthcare and social assistance industry, educational requirements vary widely among the occupations. Registered nurses require a bachelor's or associate degree. Nursing aides, personal and home care aides, and home health aides require a high school diploma, or GED certificate and some vocational or job-related course work to obtain state certification.

The top Work Activities important in the health care and social assistance occupations are:

- Assisting and Caring for Others
- Documenting/Recording Information
- Gathering Information
- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates
- Making Decisions and Solving Problems
- Identifying Objects, Actions, and Events
- Establishing and Maintaining Interpersonal Relationships
- Organizing, Planning, and Prioritizing Work
- Evaluating Information to Determine Compliance with Standards
- Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge

Also, mining will provide a large number of jobs to Nevadans in the next 5 to 10 years. The most common Work Activities in the mining industry are varied, but are generally the following:

- Operating Vehicles, Mechanized Devices, or Equipment
- Controlling Machines and Processes
- Inspecting Equipment, Structures, or Material
- Monitor Processes, Materials, or Surroundings
- Handling and Moving Objects
- Getting Information
- Communicating with Supervisors, Peers, or Subordinates
- Identifying Objects, Actions, and Events
- Organizing, Planning, and Prioritizing Work
- Making Decisions and Solving Problems

#### State Dissemination of Accurate and Timely Workforce Information

Primary access to workforce information is provided through the Internet. The NJC site at <a href="https://www.nevadajobconnect.com">www.nevadajobconnect.com</a> provides information for business and job seekers. It also provides information on NJC partners and programs. DETR's Internet site at <a href="https://www.nvdetr.org/wia/wia\_index.htm">www.nvdetr.org/wia/wia\_index.htm</a> allows customers to access the varied products and services throughout the state.

A very popular site in Nevada is the Workforce Informer at <a href="www.nevadaworkforce.com">www.nevadaworkforce.com</a>. This is the premiere site for workforce information. Also available on the site is the heavily utilized

NCIS. In the first quarter of 2006, visits to these sites totaled nearly 115,000, up 24 percent from a year ago.

To enhance its data offerings, Research and Analysis (R&A) has entered into a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, to participate in the Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Project. The labor market demographic information provided in this venture will add to the wealth of knowledge provided to customers. LED data is available from 1998 forward.

Nevada is committed to a process that provides job seekers, businesses, and workforce professionals the highest quality, most user-friendly Internet information available. A cadre of employees across the workforce spectrum has the responsibility to review and update all information on a regular, systematic basis. A marketing and business support subcommittee of the GWIB selected a marketing firm in the summer of 2005 to develop strategies to drive customers to the websites through promotion in the One-Stop Centers, advertising in print and media, and awareness-building in all workforce investment communications.

# Workforce Information System's Alignment with Workforce Activities

The Nevada JobConnect (NJC) system directly supports the WIA/WP Integrated State Plan. It is a component of the social service system that enables, motivates, and rewards self-sufficiency by providing current workforce information to customers. This effort also meets the goal of encouraging and supporting economic development. America's Labor Market Information System (ALMIS) Database and the web delivery of workforce information also address the state goal to maximize the use of the Internet and other technology to make government more accessible and economical. This effort will provide more responsive and efficient services through the use of technology.

DETR's vision is consistent with the Governor and GWIB's vision. The plan stresses the goals of improving the quality of Nevada's workforce, meeting the needs of employers, enhancing Nevada's workforce competitiveness for improvement of economic development, increasing occupational skill attainment of job seekers, and insuring increased self-sufficiency of the workforce. Our main goal is to "make the NJC system the first choice for all employers and job seekers in Nevada."

#### **State Workforce Information Products and Tools**

The premier site for workforce information is the Nevada Workforce Informer. This site is built on the national standards for workforce information and is based on the ALMIS database structure. This allows Nevada to utilize other nationally developed tools, as they are available. DETR's website is linked to the Career Information Network. In addition, we provide annual updates to the ACINet database for occupations.

The NCIS is provided to all Nevadans. It is available in all NJC offices, schools, libraries and other locations. The NCIS is an Internet-based, career guidance system. It contains career, education and workforce information, as well as many career exploration tools. The NCIS is part of a multi-state group headed by Oregon that ensures the highest standards and best customer information tools possible.

# Skill Needs for the Available, Critical and Projected Jobs

Nevada's occupational structure has been matched to the O\*NET skills developed by the US DOL/ETA. The skill needs for Nevada's demand occupations, in order of significance, include:

- Reading comprehension
- Active listening
- Speaking
- Critical thinking
- Writing
- Active learning
- Monitoring
- Social perceptiveness
- Learning strategies
- Coordination

If potential employees have mastered these basic skills, they can be further trained to address specific needs within the firm. However, employers have indicated that it is difficult to find job seekers with even the basic skills.

When identifying the high-demand occupations, it becomes apparent that it will be difficult to fill the skills gap for reading comprehension, active listening, speaking, and critical thinking.

<u>Mining:</u> Many positions do not require formal education beyond a high school diploma. Supervisors and managers may require a bachelor's degree. Some of these positions are learned through long-term apprenticeships or On-the-Job Training (OJT).

<u>Health Care:</u> Educational requirements vary widely among the health care occupations. Registered nurses require a bachelor's or associate degree. Nursing aides, personal and home care aides, and home health aides require a high school diploma, or GED certificate and some vocational or job-related course work to obtain state certification.

<u>Hospitality Industry (Accommodation and Food Services):</u> Employers are challenged to continuously recruit employees with the skills most essential to the fast growth hospitality industry occupations.

Communication is a core skill needed by hospitality industry workers. Employers report that English-speaking applicants are often difficult to find.

<u>Transportation:</u> Educational requirements vary among the transportation occupations. In many of these positions, skill in dealing with the public is essential. Various supervisory and managerial positions require a bachelor's degree.

<u>State Strategies</u>: The Integrated Workforce Plan must describe the key strategies the state intends to implement, based on its economic analysis, to achieve the governor's vision and goals.

Cross-Program Strategies – The plan must discuss integrated cross-program strategies for specific populations and sub-populations identified in the discussion of the state's economic

analysis, strategies for meeting the workforce needs of the state's employers, and regional and sectoral strategies tailored to the state's economy.

Through the workforce Sector Councils and the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, DETR will be able to work with industry, education, labor, and local area and government leaders to identify and address needs or gaps in the employment skills of Nevada's workforce. Once those skills gaps are identified, DETR will work with those same leaders and representatives throughout Nevada to assess, enhance, and align skills to create a qualified and credentialed workforce for employers across the state.

Our intent is to pursue a model for workforce development planning, and for service and training delivery that is structured as follows:

- Planning and implementation of service to citizens and training under WIA guidelines will be overseen by the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. The Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) will be the administrative staff to the Governor's Board.
- We will expand our community and industry-based participation through the use of Statewide Industry Sector Councils. These councils, mandated by 2009 Nevada legislation (SB239) will be (or have been) established to provide "industry intelligence" regarding training needs for the eight (8) industry sectors identified by the Brookings-SRI study and embraced by the Governor's Office of Economic Development. Each of the eight sector councils will comprise approximately twenty to twenty-five (20-25) members, and will meet monthly initially and then quarterly, as their working committees are established. At least 51% of the membership of each sector council will be from the private sector, and each council will have as core members:
  - The GOED Industry Specialist for the specific industry;
  - Operations level executives from companies within the industry;
  - A member of the Regional Development Authority (RDA) geographically relevant to the industry:
  - A labor representative from the industry sector;
  - Local elected officials (3) representative of the various geographic regions of the state;
  - An elected official from the Senate or Assembly, representative of the primary region(s) for the featured industry;
  - Representatives of higher education (NSHE and the community colleges);
  - A representative of K-12 education;
  - A DETR Research & Analysis Division economist; and
  - Other pertinent public and private sector representatives.

These councils will report to the Governor's Board and be responsible for assisting the Board with the following:

- 1. Developing a sector strategy to supply businesses in meeting their human resource needs.
- 2. Review and recommend workforce development funded appropriate training curriculum and skills credential certifications.
- 3. Map the talent pipeline for their sector and identify where the talent needed will come from now and in the future.
- 4. Analyze and apply workforce intelligence to develop sector-wide strategies to improve the talent pipeline.

- 5. Identify the critical jobs, skills and competencies needed by the workforce of the industry sector.
- 6. Generate public and private resources (including, but not limited to, grants) to support the sector's work and projects.
- 7. Maintain communication with the Governor's Office of Economic Development to determine the workforce training needs of companies moving to or expanding in the state.
- 8. Providing guidance for future training policy formation and implementation.

The community college component of the Nevada System of Higher Education will be the primary training provider, with annual allocations of resources. Specialized training for industry-specific needs will be sought, primarily utilizing the community colleges, as well as private for-profit and not-for-profit colleges. Foundational and/or remedial training resources will also be sought for less employable constituents.

The following strategies with associated resources will be deployed to aid in increasing the number of workers served with regular formula dollars in the specific populations of displaced homemakers, low-income individuals, migrant and seasonal farm workers, women, minorities, individuals training for nontraditional employment, veterans, public assistance recipients and individuals with multiple barriers to employment (including but not limited to ex-offenders, older individuals, limited English proficiency individuals, and people with disabilities):

- Development and refinement of a statewide "Business Driven, Worker Pipeline" which will be the core to Nevada's Sector Strategies framework to:
  - o Focus on identifying workforce needs with emphasis on sector initiatives
  - o Bring business to the table through an industry sector framework
  - o Raise the credibility of the state workforce development system
  - o Supply industry sectors with qualified human capital
- Adults and dislocated workers, including low income adults needing new or upgraded skill-sets shall have access to education and training programs through the state's Nevada JobConnect system. Individuals will have the opportunity to access services through Nevada's 10 JobConnect Centers and/or through Local Area service providers who are affiliates of Nevada's statewide workforce development system (JobConnect).
- To meet the skill-set needs of existing and emerging employers, as well as those needed
  for high-growth occupations, a dual approach to customers will be implemented by
  ensuring all associated NJC partners collaborate and coordinate client's employment and
  training services activities. Through statewide coordinated efforts, employment and
  training agencies will be able to leverage their resources while providing quality support
  to job seekers and businesses.
- Through the Governor's Workforce Investment Board Industry and Regional Sector Councils, partnerships and statewide workforce development alignment have been firmly established. Representatives associated with community colleges, business and labor organizations, registered apprenticeships, civic groups, and community-based organizations have been aligned using workforce development strategies to drive both industry and regional economic development.

Partnerships – The plan must include a discussion of key strategic partnerships that are necessary to successfully implement the strategies, specify roles of specific state entities and programs, and discuss how the strategies will meet the needs of employers and of each subpopulation. (WIA Sections 111(d)(2), 112(b)(8), W-P Section 8(c).)

State agency cabinet members are represented on the GWIB and committees/councils to maximize the effectiveness of the workforce investment programs across state agencies and collaborate on innovative strategies.

The State's organizational structure facilitates collaboration among the major workforce programs in that Workforce Investment Act, Wagner-Peyser, Trade Act, Vocational Rehabilitation, Veterans' Employment Service, and Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker services are housed within DETR. The Labor Market Information activities are also conducted within DETR.

Unemployment Insurance (UI) is a program also housed within DETR. It is this Administration's top priority that the UI program collaborates closely with other workforce partners to serve common customers. Reemployment Services (RES) and Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment (REA) initiatives involve ongoing coordination and collaboration between the divisions. Local DETR staff schedule RES and REA orientation workshops using UI's computer system. UI then provides lists of claimants to be scheduled for these events. In the case of REA, both UI and DETR staff participate in the group and individual appointments with the claimants. Finally, staff communicates on an ongoing basis to report claimant participation levels for scheduled activities.

Nevada's Governor has established the following lines of communication to ensure effective sharing of information among State agencies responsible for implementing his vision for the state's workforce investment system. Key members of the Governor's cabinet, including: the Director of the DETR, Director of Health and Human Services, and the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development were appointed by the Governor to serve as key members of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board and provide input, direction, and influence in Nevada's Workforce Investment System. As the Governor continues his term in office, communication lines will be reviewed and enhanced as needed to ensure the effective implementation of the Governor's vision for the state workforce investment system – Nevada JobConnect.

As a Governor appointee, the Chair of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board has direct access and discussions with the governor, and via different committees of the Board, the Governor is kept advised through briefing summaries as to the Board's issues and direction. Information is shared in a timely manner between local workforce investment areas, Governor's Workforce Investment Board and DETR through multiple ways: 1) Monthly cabinet level meetings are held to cover any State or local-level issues that need to be discussed; 2) WIA State Compliance Policies are posted on the Internet site at www.nvdetr.org [click on Workforce Investment Act – WIA State Compliance Policies]; and 3) State policy review process. When Federal guidance is issued, revisions to State policies are made accordingly. After the revisions are drafted, they are reviewed by the Agency Legal Counsel and when approved, they are currently sent to staff of the two Local Workforce Investment Boards for a 10-day review and comment period. If there are no recommended changes, the policy is posted on the Internet site where it is open for public comment. If after 30 days of posting, there are no comments then the

policy is heard at a public meeting of the GWIBs Planning, Policy, and Procedures (PPP) Committee. Once it has been heard and approved by the PPP Committee, it is placed on the next agenda of the full board as a Consent Agenda item for final approval and implementation.

#### Governor's Workforce Investment Board Youth Council

The Governor's vision recognizes that an important group needing education and workforce training are youth, including youth most in need, such as out of school youth, homeless youth, youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, youth offenders, children of incarcerated parents, migrant and seasonal farmworker youth, Native American and Indian youth, youth with disabilities, and other youth at risk. Awareness by employers and the public of the resources available through the workforce system shall be enhanced through marketing and branding efforts.

The NJC system has transformed into a demand-driven system that is not only responsive to individual employers, but collaborates with the educational system, both academic and vocational, to acquire job related skill and certifications for its customers. The strategies include a focus on addressing the literacy barriers of Nevada's workforce, which will require an investment of resources and expertise from both the business and education communities. Nevada has developed an inventory of demand skills for Nevada's most at risk youth and collaborates with educational and business experts to determine how these barriers can be overcome. The JobConnect Business Service Representatives maintain contact with our business customers to assure that the One Stop system is able to provide employees with demand driven Title I providers, in conjunction with Wagner Peyser services, and State of Nevada funding and personnel assets collaborate to assure that business and industry needs are met, but special attention is utilized to assure that those groups listed in the paragraph above receive every opportunity for training in skill sets defined by the business community. The development of vocational and academic training curriculum and on the job training partnerships with employers is a demand driven enterprise designed to guarantee financial and professional success to those individuals described in the paragraph above.

Leveraging Resources – The plan must discuss how the state will coordinate discretionary and formula-based investments across programs and in support of the governor's vision. The state's planned commitment of Federal and non-Federal funds to these investments should be included. The plan should also describe how the state will use program funds to leverage other Federal, state, local, and private resources, in order to effectively and efficiently provide services. (WIA Section 112(b)(10).)

WIA One-Stop System partners' resources have been identified and leveraged to avoid duplication of services as outlined in MOUs and state policies. Partners' contributions of core services will result in increased services for jobseekers and businesses—while freeing WIA funds and resources to expand greater employer services and identification of demands for workers with appropriate skill-sets. The industry sectors have been established to provide input and guidance in the type of services needed and desired by the business community. Through MOUs, linkages with partnering agencies may include:

- Employer Access to Information and Services
- Application Screening and Referral
- Application Assessment and Testing

- Training Available to New/Current Employees and Employers
- Assistance to New/Current Employees with Value-Added Services to Employers
- Labor Trends and Wage Information
- Economic and Business Development Assistance
- Customer Service and Performance Accountability
- Outreach and Marketing to Employers

In Nevada, statewide workforce investment activities, both required and allowable are funded through Governor's Reserve funds. The Governor's Workforce Investment Board prioritizes the services and activities supported by the statewide set aside funds annually. National and state directives and initiatives receive priority.

Nevada uses Governor's Reserve dollars, when available, to fund incumbent worker/specialized training programs and pilot projects for Nevada businesses as an incentive to upgrade skills of currently employed or underemployed workers. The funds expand employment and advancement opportunities for workers while simultaneously catalyzing the creation of high-skill, high-wage jobs. Nevada recognizes the need to train and retrain incumbent workers in order to keep pace with technological advances and changes in skill sets for high-demand occupations and industries. However, workforce development is more than training effectively for current job openings; it also must include planning for the workforce needs of tomorrow. A talented workforce is one that will bring new businesses and industries into some of Nevada's rural communities and ensure that the workforce of tomorrow is adequately trained and ready to meet future challenges and opportunities.

By funding innovative incumbent worker pilot projects, Nevada assists businesses or other entities in testing models for future development that will keep Nevada's workforce competitive in a regional and global economy while helping to retain and expand existing businesses and industries within the state.

The GWIB is committed to continuing to fund projects, which not only achieve the Governor's vision for Nevada's workforce system, but also address the national strategic direction for a demand-driven system.

Policy Alignment – The plan must discuss how the state will align policies, operations, administrative systems, and other procedures to assure coordination and avoid duplication of workforce programs and activities outlined in WIA Section 121(b). (WIA Sections 111(d)(2)(A), 112(b)(8)(A), 121(b), 20 CFR 661.205(b)(1).)

The goal of the Governor's plan for the state's workforce system is to strengthen the alignment of policies, operations and administrative systems. Both local WIBs currently operate under the state's compliance policies, and have developed individual policies in line with the state policies. DETR will insure that these policies are in alignment with each other. The goal is to eliminate diversions in policy and will allow more focus upon the direction given from the GWIB in alignment with other state initiatives.

This oversight and coordination will also allow for better MOUs that will align service provision to statewide goals and direction. MOUs will align the state's needs with both economic and workforce development resulting in a cohesive system. This system will be responsive to changing economic conditions and labor market needs.

<u>Desired Outcomes</u>: The Integrated Workforce Plan must describe and provide specific quantitative targets for the desired outcomes and results for the programs included in the plan. Table 1 may be used for WIA/W-P programs. The plan should also describe any additional established indicators and system measures, beyond those required by programs' authorizing statutes. (WIA Sections 112(b)(3), 136(b)(1)(A)(ii), (b)(2)(C), 20 CFR 666.110, 666.120(g), 666.300.)

In addition to the state's program performance goals, the state may also discuss the other goals it intends to achieve. Does the state examine broader economic and social indicators? For example, is the state attempting to increase the percentage of workers employed in family wage jobs; increase earnings to support a better quality of life; increase the number of employers with job opportunities; or increase high school and college graduation rates as metrics? In sum, the state should describe its desired results for the state workforce investment system and the metrics is it using to measure those results.

Table 1
Optional table for State WIA/W-P Performance Indicators and Goals

WIA Requirement at Section 136(b)	PY10 Performance 7/1/2010 – 6/30/2011	PY11 Goals 7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012	PY12 Proposed Goals 7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012
Adults:			
Entered Employment Rate	69.6 %	63.0 %	69.0 %
Employment Retention Rate	79.6 %	70.0 %	75.0 %
		, , .	1
Average Six-Months Earnings	\$12.070.80	\$11,500.00	\$12,183.00
Dislocated Workers:			
Entered Employment Rate	74.6 %	70.0 %	74.0 %
Employment Retention Rate	84. 1 %	80.0 %	82.0 %
Average Six-Months Earnings	\$14,731.00	\$14,500.00	\$14,731.00
Youth Common Measures*:			
Placement in Employment or	67.4 %	40.0 %	50.0 %
Education			
Attainment of a degree or	64.9 %	40.0 %	50.0 %
Certificate			
Literacy and Numeracy Gains	25.3 %	29.0 %	29.0 %
W-P Requirement at Section	PY10 Performance	PY11 Goal	PY12 Proposed Goals
13(a)	7/1/2010-6/30/2011	7/1/11-6/30/2012	7/1/2011 – 6/30/2012
Entered Employment Rate	53.0 %	50.0 %	50.0 %
Employment Retention Rate	76.0 %	68.0 %	70.0 %
Average Six-months Earning	\$12,374.00	\$11,000.00	\$12,000.00

Goals are negotiated for these measures by states reporting common performance measure outcomes only

The State has based its proposed performance on the following data.

- Proposed negotiated levels from the Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIB)
- Actual performance for PY10 (at the time of the development of this plan the complete PY11 number were not available)
- DOL regression analysis targets, and
- GPRA data for 2012-2014

In some target areas the State's performance was at a higher level then the actual GPRA and DOL regression analysis targets. Others were a compromise between the state and local areas due to the LWIB's having a large difference of opinion on Youth Literacy/Numeracy and Adult retention.

#### Section II. State Operational Plan

<u>Overview of the Workforce System</u>: The State Operational Plan must present an overview of the workforce system in the state.

Organization – The overview must describe organization and delivery systems at the state and local levels for the programs covered in the plan, particularly how this organization effectively supports the coordination and alignment of the state's workforce programs and supports integrated service delivery. The overview must include a description of the key state administrative personnel of the programs described earlier in the Integrated Workforce Plan, and the organizational structure and membership roster of SWIB members and their organizational affiliation.

# **Current WIA Structure**

Currently in the State of Nevada, WIA has been implemented in structure similar to the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) which predated WIA. Under JTPA and now under WIA, the State is divided into two local areas, one north, and one south, which are governed by two Local Workforce Investment Boards (LWIBs). The local area WIBs receive federal WIA funds through the State by formula to carry out WIA services. Because the LWIBs are legislatively restricted from carrying out core services, or intensive services directly, (unless agreed to by the chief elected official and the Governor), or from providing training services (unless approved by a waiver from the Governor), they must contract with other local service providers to perform actual client services. §661.310 (a)(b)

At the State level, governance is provided by the GWIB that is responsible to oversee workforce programs in Nevada. Administrative leadership, oversight, and support to the State's WIA system comes from DETR. DETR is responsible for distributing funds, providing policy guidance, monitoring program activity, and giving technical assistance to the local workforce areas and WIBs.

State compliance policies will be developed that will delineate how the re-comprised one-stop system will be established. Currently the state of Nevada's is struggling to establish one stops due to differences of opinion between the local areas and the state. Through the authority of the

Governor's Workforce Investment Board instruction will be given on what the expectation for the one-stop system will be.

#### New Alignment of WIA System with Economic Development in Nevada

Nevada is currently undergoing a complete restructure of our economic development system, and we are aligning our workforce development delivery to support the revised structure. Governor Sandoval's Vision is to provide "A vibrant, innovative and sustainable economy"; with the Mission being "High-quality jobs for Nevadans". The objectives of the state's Plan for Excellence in Economic Development include:

- Establishing a cohesive economic development operating system.
- Advancing targeted business sectors and opportunities in the various regions of the state.
- Expanding global engagement.
- Catalyzing innovation in core and emerging industries.
- Increasing opportunity through education and workforce development.

The geography of our state, as well as the emerging industry sectors we target, demand a statewide perspective where regional strategies for workforce development may be employed; and consistent foundational and/or remedial workforce training as well as industry-specific training will be provided, whether in our urban or rural environments.

Studies of our training delivery mechanisms reveal that we have not utilized our strongest higher education component, the community college system, to any great degree. Our interaction and collaboration between our local workforce boards and the industry sector employers or regional development authorities, has not been adequate or consistent. And, finally, the relationship between our local workforce investment boards and the state government is not as productive as it should be. These are the reasons for the alignment with economic development in the state.

The Governor's alignment plan will require the Governor's Workforce Investment Board to incorporate many of the great public and private sector minds that are currently involved, or should be involved in oversight of workforce development in Nevada. Nevada will also utilize the Industry Sector Councils being formed under DETR to invite other public and private sector intellects to participate, thereby asking many of the members serving on our local workforce investment boards to serve on the council of the sector that interests them. Under this plan, local input into the workforce training system will increase and broaden. This will also ensure that all current areas have the opportunity to continue to participate in workforce development

Nevada will expand our community and industry based participation through the use of Statewide Industry Sector Councils. These councils, mandated by 2009 Nevada legislation (SB239) will be (or have been) established to provide "industry intelligence" regarding training needs for the eight (8) industry sectors identified by the Brookings-SRI study and embraced by GOED. Each of the seven sector councils will comprise approximately twenty to twenty-five (20-25) members, and will meet monthly initially and then quarterly, as their working committees are established. At least 51% of the membership of each sector will be from the private sector, and each council will have as core members:

- o The GOED Industry Specialist for the specific industry;
- o Operations level executives from companies within the industry;

- A member of the Regional Development Authority (RDA) geographically relevant to the industry;
- o A labor representative from the industry sector;
- Local elected officials (3) representative of the various geographic regions of the state;
- An elected official from the Senate and Assembly, representative of the primary region(s) for the featured industry;
- o Representatives of higher education (NSHE and the community colleges);
- o A representative of K-12 education;
- o A DETR Research and Analysis Division economist; and
- o Other pertinent public and private sector representatives.

These councils will report to the Governor's Board and be responsible for assisting the Board with the following:

- Developing a sector strategy to support businesses in meeting their human resource needs.
- 2. Review and recommend workforce development funded appropriate training curriculum and skills credential certifications.
- 3. Map the talent pipeline for their sector and identify where the talent needed will come from now and in the future.
- 4. Analyze and apply workforce intelligence to develop sector-wide strategies to improve the talent pipeline.
- 5. Identify the critical jobs, skills and competencies needed by the workforce of the industry sector.
- 6. Generate public and private resources (including, but not limited to, grants) to support the sector's work and projects.
- 7. Maintain communications with the GOED to determine the workforce training needs of companies moving to or expanding in the state.
- 8. Providing guidance from future training policy formations and implementation.

State Board – The State Operational Plan must describe how the SWIB effectively coordinates and aligns the resources and policies of all the programs included in the plan, and specifically, must include the following items related to the SWIB:

- How the board collaborated in the development of the plan, and how it will collaborate in carrying out the functions described in WIA Section 111(d). (WIA Sections 111(a), (b), (d), 112(b)(1); 20 CFR 661.205.)
- How the SWIB member who represents Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) will effectively represent the interests, needs, and priorities of the VR program and how the employment needs of individuals with disabilities in the state will be addressed. (Only applicable to states which: (1) do not have the state VR agency director on its SWIB; and (2) do not use an alternative entity as its SWIB as described in 20 CFR 661.210.) (WIA Sections 111(b)(1), 112(b)(8)(A)(iii), Rehabilitation Act Section 101(a)(2)(B), 20 CFR 661.200(i)(3), 661.205(b)(1).)
- How the state will ensure an ongoing role in the workforce investment system for any

group not represented on the SWIB. This might be regularly scheduled consultations, opportunities for input into the Integrated Workforce Plan or other policies, or an advisory committee. (Only applicable to states which use an alternative entity as its SWIB as described in 20 CFR 661.210.) (WIA Section 111(e), 20 CFR 661.210(c).)

Nevada's Governor has established the following lines of communication to ensure effective sharing of information among State agencies responsible for implementing his vision for the state's workforce investment system. The Governor is in the process of going through a rigorous reorganization of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. Once the board is fully comprised, DETR will be requesting board training for the newly constituted board from the Department of Labor. Key members of the Governor's cabinet, including: the Director of the DETR, Director of Health and Human Services, and the Governor's Office of Economic Development were appointed by the Governor to serve as key members of the Governor's Workforce Investment Board and provide input, direction, and influence in Nevada's Workforce Investment System. Since Nevada is restructuring the current Board membership, the Vocational Rehabilitation Agency Director will be reassigned to this cabinet. As the Governor continues his term in office, communication lines will be reviewed and enhanced as needed to ensure the effective implementation of the Governor's vision for the state workforce investment system – Nevada JobConnect.

As a Governor appointee, the Chair of the GWIB has direct access and discussions with the governor, and via different committees of the Board, the Governor is kept advised through briefing summaries as to the Board's issues and direction.

In accordance with the Executive Order issued March 22, 1999, the GWIB is currently comprised of 31 members appointed by the Governor and four State Legislators assigned by the majority party leadership. The current standing committees of the GWIB are as follows:

- <u>Planning, Policy, Performance Committee</u> The Governor's Workforce Investment Board has established the Planning, Policy and Performance subcommittee. This committee is responsible for making recommendations to the full board on appropriate policy and to update the performance goals for the state and for ensuring that the Governor's Workforce Investment Board is informed and addresses workforce issues affecting persons with disabilities and other special populations are they are identified; input on new and revised state planning documents, review and approval of mandated Workforce Investment Act State Compliance Policies, guidance on policies that advance the skills and workforce development opportunities for Nevada's residents who are incumbent workers, unemployed, underemployed, youth and adults and dislocated workers who lack of skills prevent or limit their successful employment. In particular the committee is charged identifying professional development and technical assistance needs and resources to strengthen workforce Nevada's development programs. This committee is also responsible reviewing the state plan and presenting an overview as well as any recommended revisions to the full board for their input. Once the input has been gathered and added to the plan, it is then posted for public comment and hearing.
- <u>Youth Council</u> created to review service delivery of education and workforce training programs and recommend additional policies to advance initiatives targeting youth.
- Marketing and Business Support Committee created to guide and monitor the campaign to market the services of the state's workforce investment system – Nevada JobConnect.

• <u>Budget Committee</u> – created to oversee the allocation formulas for the distribution of funds for adult employment and training activities and youth activities to local areas. This committee may also make recommendations to the Governor, through the Director of the DETR, as to the disposition of reserve funds.

SB239 requires the GWIB to establish industry sector councils to identify job training and education programs that best meet regional economic development goals. Based on specific labor market information available at the time, DETR's Research and Analysis Bureau identified industry sectors that had the potential for high growth and high-demand job openings in Nevada. The GWIB has or will establish the eight councils identified below to reflect the industry sector strategy activities, avoid duplication of effort, and ensure coordination with existing policy bodies and advisory groups who provide input to the Governor on industry needs. These will align with the industry sectors managed by the Governor's Office of Economic Development.

The eight industry sector councils will include GWIB members along with private and public individuals who serve on other related local and State entities, and are as follows:

- Green, Renewable and Energy Efficiency Council
- Health Care Sector Council
- Leisure, Hospitality and Retail Trade Council
- Manufacturing Council
- Mining Council
- Business IT Council
- Logistics and Operations Council
- Aerospace and Defense Council

The primary roles of the eight industry sector councils include:

- Develop a sector strategic plan to support sector businesses in meeting their human resources needs.
- Map the talent pipeline for the sector and identify where that talent needed will come from now, in the near-term, and in the future.
- Analyze and apply workforce intelligence to develop sector-wide strategies to improve the talent pipeline.
- Seek to increase the quantity and quality of the talent pool for the sector so individual employers will have a better talent pool to tap.
- Define career pathways for individuals that will ensure a continuous supply of qualified talent.
- Communicate the skills needed by the sector to public and private workforce, education, and training organizations so these suppliers may improve responsiveness and better prepare workers for the sector.
- Implement specific projects that will assist the sector in improving current and potential talent.
- Identify (and seek removal of) regulatory barriers that stand in the way of talent acquisition, expansion, and retention.
- Generate public and private resources (including, but not limited to, grants) to support to sector's work and projects.

The Chair or Vice-Chair of each committee or council will provide a report at each quarterly meeting of the GWIB. The Chairs are required to be a representative of the private sector.

The GWIB is subject to the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements (Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241). Open meeting requirements are specified in the Board's By-Laws. To ensure open meeting requirements are met, meetings of the full GWIB and its working committees and councils are published on the DETR web page at <a href="www.nvdetr.org">www.nvdetr.org</a>. WIA State Compliance Policies and plans are also posted on this web page and can be accessed by clicking on the "Workforce Investment Act" link at the bottom of that page. Reasonable notice of all meetings, within three working days, is required under Nevada law. All meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the web page at <a href="www.nvdetr.org/publicmeetings.htm">www.nvdetr.org/publicmeetings.htm</a>. This is the method that DETR uses to inform the news media and the public in general about all meetings of councils and committees for which DETR is responsible. Agendas are also sent via electronic mail to a list of "Interested Parties." In addition, GWIB and committee meetings are held in locations that are physically accessible to persons with disabilities. In addition, people who need special accommodations, such as an interpreter or written materials in an alternative format, are directed in the public meeting notice to contact DETR staff for assistance with reasonable accommodations within at least 72 hours of the scheduled meeting.

Local Areas – The State Operational Plan must also describe WIA title I local areas in the state, including:

- An identification of local areas designated in the state, and the process used for designating local areas. (WIA Sections 111(d)(4), 112(b)(5), and 116(a), 20 CFR 661.205(d), 661.250-.270.)
- The designation of intrastate regions and interstate regions, as defined in 20 CFR 661.290, and their corresponding performance measures. For interstate regions, describe the roles of the respective governors, and state and local workforce investment boards. (WIA Section 116(c).) States may also discuss other types of regional structures here.

As mentioned before, the State is divided into two local areas, one north, and one south. The local areas and their respective WIBs, receive federal WIA funds through the State by formula to carry out WIA services. Under the Governor's proposal for restructuring Nevada's economic and workforce structures, the two existing local workforce investment areas will remain.

The northern area includes Washoe, Storey, Carson, Douglas, Lyon, Mineral, Churchill, Pershing, Humboldt, Lander, Elko, Eureka, and White Pine counties. The southern area includes Esmeralda, Nye, Lincoln, and Clark counties. Each of these areas contains one of Nevada's two current areas of urban concentration. The northern area encompasses the cities of Reno, Sparks, and Carson City, while the southern area contains the cities of Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, Boulder City, and Henderson. Nevada currently does not participate in any interstate regional collaboration.

<u>Operating Systems and Policies Supporting the State's Strategies</u>: The State Operational Plan must describe:

• State operating systems that support coordinated implementation of state strategies. (WIA Section 112(b)(8)(a).)

The NJCOS, one-stop management information system is designed to inform workforce investment partners, job-seekers, and employers about the employer openings posted directly through Nevada JobConnect One Stop offices and the national US Jobs site for the state of Nevada. Employers may also request and receive data related to the number of Nevada job-seekers registrants, specific to their labor market area needs, the occupational skills and work experience matched to provide qualified job applicants required which a service is provided from this one stop management information system. The system communicates and provides linkage to the national labor market.

• State policies that support the coordinated implementation of the state's strategies. (WIA Section 112(b)(8)(a).)

The basis for a demand-driven system is the provision of quality economic analysis and workforce characteristics. But, even with the best information available, its use will be compromised without a commitment from administrators to promote a significant investment in training for all workforce system staff. Nevada has made that commitment.

DETR's Research and Analysis Division has been designated to manage the Nevada Workforce Information System to promote areas of job opportunities by identifying high-growth, high-demand industries and occupations in the Nevada economy. Bureau analysts provide information on potential job opportunities in the short and long-term and identify the skills that are in demand.

Staff at the local NJC offices, the Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and Local Areas as well as community-based organizations have the opportunity to participate in training concerning the development and utilization of workforce information on a continuous basis throughout the state. This training focuses on the proper interpretation and utilization of workforce information in their daily jobs. Hands-on training on the web-based Nevada Career Information System, a comprehensive career planning guide, will allow front-line staff to provide exceptional direction to job seekers and those interested in evaluating their career direction.

The State of Nevada has ten JobConnect offices that manage and operate in the following Nevada communities: Las Vegas, Reno, Fallon, Carson City, Elko, Ely, Winnemucca, Sparks, North Las Vegas and Henderson. Urban Nevada JobConnect offices are strategically located in their geographic areas and most are in proximity to disadvantaged populations and accessible by public transportation.

Wagner-Peyser Act staff is assigned to the Nevada JobConnect offices with the greatest demand for reemployment and/or training services. This demand can very accurately be determined using data from the NJCOS and also the Client Front Office Management System which is in place in each urban office. The Client Front Desk Management System provides reports which can ascertain the number of clients that visit each office for reemployment or training services. It is also used to provide reports that indicate the wait times for customers accessing services.

Each of the state operated Nevada JobConnect offices utilize the NJCOS as the common intake and initial assessment instrument. This instrument is also utilized by Workforce Investment Act

Title I sub grantees in Northern Nevada, State of Nevada Welfare Employment Specialists and Community College Workforce Development Staff.

State operated Nevada JobConnect offices are also built around a common service delivery structure whereby, the customer can choose the means by which reemployment services are accessed. The available venues include the following:

#### **On-Line**

Individuals can register on-line with Nevada JobConnect and be matched to job openings listed with the Nevada JobConnect system. The Nevada JobConnect self-service site has resume, job scout and self-referral features. The online resumes are accessible to registered employers who may contact the job seekers directly. In addition, information on training opportunities and labor market information are also accessible on-line.

Individuals may also register and post their resumes to US.Jobs/Nevada (<a href="http://nevada.us.jobs">http://nevada.us.jobs</a>) as a secondary source for job search and to apply directly to employer posted jobs. Included in the jobs posted to US.Jobs/Nevada are listings from Nevada JobConnect job bank and private sources.

Employers may request staff assistance for Job Orders posted online via the DETR/JobConnect website. The staff assisted services may include prescreening of applicants, job fairs, or use of interview rooms, etc. Employers click on the appropriate links and then complete a simple form which includes information about the job they wish to post. JobConnect Business Services staff will contact the employer within 24 hours of receipt of the job order, excepting weekends and holidays.

#### Self Help

Each Nevada JobConnect office has a high quality resource center which provides personal computers, fax machines, copy machines, and information and software useful to individuals seeking employment and/or training. Labor exchange services are fully accessible to the individual who chooses to seek services through this self service mode.

In addition, the resource centers include adaptive technology which allows person with disabilities access to all services.

#### **Staff Assisted Self Help**

Staff assistance is available to all customers requiring assistance utilizing the resource center technologies. Offices also provide job search workshops on a regular basis to assist individuals develop job search strategies, interviewing skills and to enhance their employability.

# **Mediated Services**

Mediated services are available at each NJC office. These services include labor exchange services, resume development, employment counseling and job development, as well as referral to training opportunities funded by the Workforce Investment Act sub-grantees.

These four venues outlined above, which describe the various methods in which customers can access services, ensure that customers with any level of expertise are able to access a full range of services in a manner that best matches their capabilities.

• How the delivery of services to jobseeker customers and employer customers, including Registered Apprenticeship sponsors, will be aligned across programs. (WIA Sections 111(d)(2), 112(b)(8).)

The comprehensive One-Stop Centers in both of Nevada's local workforce areas embody the quality of customer service and level of efficiency that will be predicated on the following requirements:

- Must enter into a MOU with Local Areas relating to the operation of their One-Stop system that meets the requirements of 662.330 of WIA regulations and section 121 of WIA
- Must establish a foundation for integrating the WIA required One-Stop partners into a non-duplicating, collaborative, seamless system of service delivery that will enhance access to the programs' services and improve long-term employment outcomes for individuals receiving assistance
- Must establish a system that ensures that a range of workforce development services and programs carried out by One-Stop partners is easily accessible to individuals seeking assistance
- Must provide all WIA specified core services to customers
- Must have experienced staff that is well versed in all aspects of local labor market information, employment and training programs and WIA regulations
- Must have a fiscal accountability system in place that consists of policies and procedures which exemplify integrity, financial competency of Generally Accepted Accounting Practices, and a thorough knowledge of federal monetary regulations
- Must have a previous, demonstrated history of salient performance in employment and training programs that address the needs of a diverse population of adults and youth

The DETR consolidates the employment and training programs administered by the Employment Security Division, Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Research and Analysis Bureau (labor market entity into a single Executive Branch agency). This centralization of funding streams of the majority of publicly funded workforce investment programs within one administrative entity laid the foundation for the development of the Nevada's One-Stop service delivery system, Nevada JobConnect (NJC). Today, the system is comprised of ten One-Stop career centers, four in each of the urban areas of the state, and six offices serving the workforce needs of rural Nevada

All ten of the NJC offices throughout the state have resource centers and a range of employment and training services available to the employer and job-seeking customers. The employment and training services available from partner organizations in some centers include WIA adult, dislocated worker, youth services, and labor market information, as well as Wagner-Peyser, Veterans Employment and Training, Reemployment and Eligibility Assessment, Worker Profiling, Trade Act, Vocational Rehabilitation, Rapid Response, Silver State Works (SSW) and the employer-funded Career Enhancement Program.

As the Governor's board and the local areas endeavor to meet the changing needs of Nevada's businesses, the roles and responsibilities of the system have been refined to ensure a stronger

connection between the needs of employers and the services offered by NJC. It is through enhanced collaboration with state and local economic development entities and the state's educational system that NJC will seek out new opportunities to integrate these partners into Nevada's One-Stop employment and training service delivery system.

The One-Stop system unifies training, education and employment programs into a single, customer-friendly system that serves as a focal point for service delivery. The state workforce agency collaborated with Local Areas in establishing 10 One-Stop centers throughout the state by committing all resources available to the department to provide the foundation for the Nevada JobConnect system. In addition to providing staffing and infrastructure resources, the State acts as a conduit between the Governor and the Local Areas for communicating strategic priorities for system development and continuous improvement.

The GWIB ensures universal access for businesses and job seekers through the One-Stop service delivery system by providing the following:

#### One-Stop Services for Businesses:

- Recruitment and pre-screening of qualified applicants
- Easy access to post job listings through NJCOS, Nevada .US. Jobs and contracted service providers
- Job and industry growth trends and forecasts
- Wage data and other valuable labor market information
- Economic and business development assistance
- Hiring and Training incentives

Employers have expressed their satisfaction with the value-added benefits from a single system for finding job-ready, skilled human capital that meet their needs. Through the NJC, employers have a single point of contact to provide information about current and future skills needed by their employees and to list job openings.

#### One-Stop Service for Jobseekers

- Information about local, state, and national labor markets
- Job and career resources (computers, faxes, copy machines, telephones)
- Job listings
- Hiring/employment requirements
- Job referral and placement services
- Information on the quality of education and training programs
- Initial screening for training eligibility
- Testing and assessment
- Job search
- Assistance in filing Unemployment Insurance claims
- Information about the availability of local supportive services, including: childcare, transportation, various aid programs, other agencies and their complementary employment support services

The state has determined what factors are critical to ensure the success of services to employers. These factors include identifying the type of business model that will increase employer satisfaction, manage and deliver employers services. Nevada's business plan stems from a

business model that establishes One-Stop partners and NJC staff forming a joint team across program levels. We have determined clear niches of focus that connect us to specific industries, economic development partners and/or community colleges. This design consideration has allowed us to further leverage our funding and/or human resources. Other critical success factors include maintaining a comprehensive service delivery database that tracks our contacts, delivery of services and outcomes. The NJCOS serves as our contact management system. Our statewide brand has allowed us to design a statewide menu of employer services that can be readily accessed across the state.

The NJC is constantly evaluating the state's strategies to improve services to our employer's customers. We have adopted the single point of contact model for business service. The NJC offices hire dedicated specialized Business Service Representatives who establish relationships with employers and industries. This specialized staff conducts local area outreach to individual employers and become the employer's primary point of contact. This approach has encouraged employers to list their job openings with the NJC offices. This helps to eliminate duplication of effort of the partnering agency staff that may also engage employers.

Additionally, Wagner-Peyser Act funded staff work with industry clusters, sectors and/or groups of related employers to address their local area labor demands, particularly for industries with labor shortages.

The following is an overview of the performance-based strategy for NJC Business Services.

<u>Goal One</u>: Increase communication, networking and business outreach to build successful relationships with Nevada's employers and workforce system partners.

#### Strategy/Action Steps:

- Business Service Representatives and staff develop positive, service-oriented relationships with employers. The success of these relationships is measured by customer satisfaction surveys conducted over the telephone by NJC management and DETR's R&A Bureau.
- Business Service Representatives and staff conduct business outreach by contacting new
  employers weekly. (There are a variety of resources available to conduct business
  outreach including phone, direct mail and face-to-face visits). Among the services
  offered to businesses are:
  - Job placement
  - o Recruitment
  - o Training Resources
  - o Labor market Information
  - o On-line resources
  - o Business incentives
- Business Service Representatives and staff maintain a supply of NJC brochures and information packets, which include a menu of our services. Packets are customized to individual business needs based on preliminary research done by the Business Service Representatives and staff using NJCOS, the Internet, and local business directories.
- Business Service Representatives and staff meet monthly with local economic development representatives and human resource professionals to discuss current workforce system needs and projected needs
- Business Services staff visit and become familiar with e-based workforce system resource

- tools to include www.workforceatm.org
- Business Service Representatives and staff write and, when appropriate, train on a
  procedure about how to target new employers
- Business Service Representatives and staff write, and when appropriate, train on a procedure about how to target specific industry employers

<u>Goal Two:</u> To exceed employer expectations by knowing and understanding the employers' needs.

#### Strategy/Action Steps:

- Business Service Representatives and staff utilize an employer assessment form that identifies the employers' needs and common interests. This information will be entered into NJCOS employer activity screen
- Business Service Representatives and staff utilize each employer's assessment and requested menu of services to develop an individualized plan of services for that employer within two weeks of assessment completion
- The Business Services unit subscribes to a number of media, including the Nevada Workforce Informer website, Business Resource Connection directory, and others. Business Service Representatives and staff read and access this material to remain current on business challenges, closures, employment data, and other workforce issues that employers face
- Business Service Representatives and staff contribute to articles addressing workforce development issues, and have provided local media with sound bites and film for area broadcasts addressing unemployment rates, the local job market and other employmentrelated topics

 $\underline{\text{Goal Three}}$ : To increase Nevada JobConnect's ability to match the skills that employers want with the skills that applicants possess.

#### Strategy/Action Steps:

- Business Service Representatives and staff conduct strategic outreach to target those sectors whose employers want the skills that applicants possess based upon NJC One-Stop surveys.
- Business Service Representatives attend sector council meetings for green energy, health
  care, manufacturing, and hospitality. These sector councils are comprised of management
  representatives of the various business sectors that meet frequently to listen to expert
  speakers and to discuss areas of common interest. They also act as a research resource
  that allows ESO personnel to better serve both industry and individual company needs.
- NJC provides both short and long-term training opportunities through co-enrollment with Workforce Investment partner programs in career fields in which there is a documented need. Co-enrollment maximizes training dollars, assists the customer to increase their employability and helps all WIA partners achieve their goals.
- NJC provides job match services for employers listing job orders through the NJCOS. Improved O\*Net coding has enabled better matching of qualified job seekers to the employer's minimum qualifications for the job order. Interactive voice response calls can be generated to these applicants to notify them of the job opportunity.
- Nevada JobConnect is a primary partner in the Silver State Works program which
  provides the following type of hiring and training incentives to businesses.

- Employer Based Training: This component allows laid off workers who qualify for UI benefits to simultaneously receive workplace training and regular UI benefits.
- Employer Incentive Job Program: This component allows employers to enter into a contract to provide on the job training to a worker and receive a reimbursement for a portion of the workers salary.
- o Incentive Based Employment: This component supports employers who hire and retain eligible individuals in full time employment by providing a wage and training subsidy based on the total amount of time the qualified individuals remains actively employed. The maximum of this subsidy is \$2,000 per worker.
- How the state will provide WIA rapid response activities to dislocated workers from funds reserved under Section 133(a)(2), including designating a state rapid response unit. (WIA Section 112(b)(17)(A)(ii), 133(a)(2), 134(a)(2)(A).)

The primary responsibility for the delivery of Rapid Response intervention services rests with the state workforce agency. DETR is designated by the Governor to ensure delivery of comprehensive workforce services for businesses and their employees affected by downsizing or closures that result in a job dislocation, to assist dislocated workers in obtaining reemployment as soon as possible. Additional information pertaining to Rapid Response can be found at DETR's website <a href="http://www.nvdetr.org">http://www.nvdetr.org</a>.

Rapid Response activities are funded through the use of up to 25 percent of the Work Investment Act (WIA) Dislocated Worker Program funds allocated for Nevada to operate the program. The remainder of the funds may be used by the State to provide funds to local areas that experience increased numbers of unemployed individuals due to natural disasters, plant closings, mass layoffs or other events, for provision of direct services to participant (such as intensive, training, and other services).

Nevada's Rapid Response unit is assigned to monitor and deliver expedited services to businesses and workers facing layoffs or closures. These services are coordinated through the department's Workforce Investment Support Services (WISS) Unit.

Nevada's Rapid Response team is comprised of individuals from the local workforce investment boards, dislocated worker service providers, organized labor, and the Employment Security Division (ESD). The team endeavors to educate every business and dislocated worker about the services and information available through federal, state and local organizations to reduce the affects of business downsizing. Additionally, the team makes every effort to conduct immediate and on-site assessments with the employer, representatives of the affected workers, and the local community to evaluate the specific needs of the affected business and workers and to provide intervention services. Nevada's Rapid Response unit endorses all activities necessary to plan and furnish services that enable dislocated workers to transition into reemployment, as quickly as possible, following a job dislocation.

Layoff aversion is defined as the prevention or minimization of unemployment, either for employees of companies that have announced layoffs, are struggling, or looking to retool for new products or industries, through a range of strategies and approaches. Effective July 1, 2011, DETR announced a statewide layoff aversion strategy, coordinated with the two local areas. The objectives of the strategy is to:

- Examine major issues in the field of workforce and economic development; work to create programs, partnerships and solutions to complement local area policy decisions,
- Promote creative service design within Rapid Response that is tailored to meet the needs
  of regional economies,
- Drive change within the workforce development system that aligns services to workers with benefits and resources that educate and prepare them, for structural changes in the global marketplace,
- Facilitate the vision of talent development within economic development planning by proactively assisting with the adoption of common policies across regional systems and structures,
- Build on the principles of transformation for Rapid Response: initiating proactive collaboration and partnership; connecting strategic planning to regional economies; and creating customized solutions for businesses and workers in transition,
- Adopt tools, approaches and successes to/in regional transformation that overcome barriers to performance and encourage innovative practices,
- Focus on creation of a demand-driven, integrated publicly-funded workforce investment system.

In order to achieve the objectives of the plan, local staff will actively participate and strive to create partnerships, implement policies and solutions to complement current service delivery design and encourage innovative practices that benefit dislocated workers and the business industry.

One example of this strategy resulted in retraining an existing employee, rather than a layoff due to company cutbacks. This retraining provided the employer with a more diversified employee and allowed them to retain instead of lay this employee off. This is the ultimate goal of layoff aversion and Nevada is committed to continue finding ways to assist the employer community to meet this goal.

• Common data-collection and reporting processes used for all programs and activities present in One-Stop Career Centers. (WIA Section 112(b)(8).)

The NJCOS, a partner of the America's One-Stop Operating System (AOSOS) consortium of states, is a comprehensive one-stop management information system designed to meet the core business needs of state workforce investment systems. NJCOS allows data to be recorded and shared by state and local partner programs that comprise the Nevada JobConnect system. The system supports both customer self-service and mediated case management services, and contains all necessary components to meet the reporting requirements of all One Stop program partners under WIA, Labor Exchange and TAA reporting requirements. NJCOS is a single common data collection and reporting process, that facilitates seamless integrated service delivery and performance management.

• State performance accountability system developed for workforce investment activities to be carried out through the statewide workforce investment system. (WIA Sections 111(d)(2), (d)(6)-(8), 112(b)(3), 136; W-P Section 15; 20 CFR 666.205(f)-(h), 661.220(c), and 20 CRF part 666.)

WIA federal reports are run early and give ample time for data corrections prior to the date of submission. The numerators and denominators of the measures are provided if a data anomaly is found. The WIASRD report edit checks provide details for data entry errors to correct in the state Management Information System (MIS). Ad-hoc reporting is available for all WIA data and performance outcomes. The case management system sends reminders to the case managers for exit and outcome analysis. The state system has a Local WIA Management Report (LWIAMR) module that provides the case managers the ability to run ad-hoc and static queries geared for WIA follow-up, performance and inaccurate or lack of data entry.

The state generates projected WIA performance reports giving time to review the real-time data and make corrections for increased WIA performance reporting. These reports provide the client record identifiers so that the WIA providers can review the current numerators and measure denominators for each of the WIA target measures. Those not reflecting a positive outcome are analyzed to determine if data entry error correction is needed or case managers need to contact the clients for further WIA services.

The State Performance Indicator report is done monthly which provides for review of performance. The target measures that are not met are analyzed to develop and implement strategies for improvement.

• State strategies for using quarterly wage record information to measure the progress on state and local performance measures, including identification of which entities may have access to wage record information. (WIA Section 136(f)(2), 20 CFR 666.150)

Nevada uses quarterly wage records received from the Nevada Unemployment Insurance Employer Contribution records. Wages from multiple participating states are also provided through the Wage Record Interchange System (WRIS). Access to wage information is not available to workforce staff and is used and validated for accuracy of federal reports only. NJCOS does indicate Nevada employment after exit from workforce services occur, however no wage information or employer information is provided or available to workforce staff due to wage confidentiality agreements.

<u>Services to State Target Populations</u>: The State Operational Plan must describe how all the programs described in the plan will work together to ensure that customers who need a broad range of services receive them. This is an opportunity for the state to describe how One-Stop Career Center services will address more specific needs of targeted sub-populations identified in the economic analysis. The State Operational Plan must describe how the state will:

• Serve employment, re-employment, and training needs of unemployment compensation claimants; the long-term unemployed; the under-employed; dislocated workers (including trade-impacted dislocated workers and displaced homemakers); low-income individuals (including recipients of public assistance); migrant and seasonal farmworkers; veterans; individuals with limited English proficiency; homeless individuals; ex-offenders; older workers; individuals training for nontraditional employment; and individuals with multiple challenges to employment. (WIA Sections 112(b)(17)(A), (b)(17)(B), (b)(18)(A), (b)(8)(A), 20 CFR 652.207, 663.60-.640, 29 CFR part 37.)

DETR is committed to ensuring program integration and coordination of employment and training services through the NJC system. This integration of services among the NJC partners

and other providers ensures optimum exposure to the programs and activities for persons seeking employment and/or training opportunities. The Governor's Workforce Investment Board's Youth Council is fully established and meets on a regular basis to develop statewide priorities for serving youth.

Nevada's Workforce System provides linkages in service delivery for active partners in Vocational Rehabilitation (VR), Career Enhancement Program (CEP), Veteran's services, job counselors, Title I Dislocated Workers, Worker Profiling, Reemployment Services and Business Employment Representatives, and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). Nevada DETR has a history of prior coordination activities with the following agencies and programs: Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, the Social Security Administration, the Division of Mental Health, substance abuse programs, homeless programs, Developmental Disability Advisory Committee, Department of Veterans Administration, criminal justice, Medicaid and Medicare, community colleges and state universities, Job Corps, state and local Independent Living Centers, and regional economic development agencies. These relationships will continue and will enhance program delivery to all populations listed above.

Both Wagner-Peyser and WIA funds are managed to ensure operational efficiencies, non-duplication of core services, and leveraging of resources to meet Nevada's workforce needs and the needs of designated sub-populations.

The following core services, which are the foundation of the one stop delivery system, are available in all designated comprehensive and affiliate Nevada JobConnect sites:

- Outreach to both job seekers and businesses to provide information on the services available at Nevada JobConnect.
- Initial assessment of aptitudes, abilities, interests and skills, as well as supportive services needs.
- Placement services in mediated, facilitated or self-service modes.
- Rapid Response and Worker Profiling services for dislocated or soon to be dislocated workers.
- Worker Profiling and Reemployment Services (WPRS) offers reemployment assistance through a group orientation and individualized one-one-one assistance to Nevada's unemployment compensation claimants.
- Access to current labor market information (LMI), including demand occupations, and future forecasts for labor market needs. Current job listings and employment opportunities are available in both printed and electronic formats.
- Access to performance information and costs associated with various training providers.
- Information on the available supportive services including, but not limited to, housing, food stamps, child care, medical assistance, education, protective shelters, employment and training.
- Information on filing unemployment claims, including both telephone and Internet claim filing.
- Other core services as determined by legislation and regulation governing the specific partner programs.

Additionally, job seekers' access to intensive and training services is provided on-site or through referral to appropriate service providers.

Wagner-Peyser services are provided through Nevada's One-Stop Career Centers, the Nevada Job Connect offices. The NJC One Stop system provides a range of employment related labor exchange services including but not limited to job search assistance, job referral, and placement assistance for all job seekers, re-employment services, and recruitment services to employers with job openings.

Veteran's services are provided in all NJC offices. Veterans Priority of Service is provided based on TEGL 10-09 and VPL-7-10. Nevada follows Public Law 107-288, United States Code (USC) Title 38, and all Special Grant Provisions, Veterans Program Letters, and DOL/VETS directives. Veterans' performance measures (ETA 9002 & VETS 200 reports) assist in the success of the vision of the State Plan. The Statewide Veterans Services Coordinator monitors all performance measures and reports, and participates in the training of management and veterans' staff to ensure compliance with all policies and regulations.

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Through the NJC system, veteran and eligible spouses may elect self-service electronic access for registration, facilitated self-help, or staff-assisted service. With self-service the veteran and eligible spouse have Priority of Service in all JobConnect resource centers. To accomplish this, signs are posted at the intake desk of all resource centers stating this Priority of Service and asking veterans or eligible spouses to identify themselves to the intake personnel. That translates to priority of assignment with computers, electronic access self registration, internet access and other resource center equipment and materials.

Facilitated self-help is available for veterans and eligible spouses in all JobConnect resource centers. Resource center personnel provide hands on assistance completing electronic access self registration, resume assistance, job search assistance, electronic access to the internet, etc.

Veterans and eligible spouses receive Priority of Service in all staff-assisted services. Veterans and eligible spouses are identified at the initial intake desk. Veterans and eligible spouses are given Priority of Service by being identified as a veteran using the Claimant Management System (CMS). At this point, questions are asked to identify eligible veterans. Eligible veterans are given a further identifier enabling the referral to Jobs for Veterans Act (JVA) staff if needed. Both categories are given Priority of Service to the next available staff member. At this stage of the intake process, a list of programs and services available is provided. Details regarding qualification and referrals to specific programs are discussed during the in person intake process.

Local Veterans Employment Representative (LVER) and Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) staff is available at NJC offices to provide facilitated service to eligible veterans who require additional services. LVER and DVOP staff assesses veterans and eligible spouses for potential barriers to employment and identifies the need for additional services. If an eligible veteran or eligible spouse requires more intensive services or case management in order to overcome barriers to employments, a DVOP can provide case management services.

LVER and DVOP staff raises veterans' issues, including efforts to expand information provided to veterans, in an effort to increase awareness of available services. LVER staff develop employment opportunities and coordinate with DVOP staff in an effort to place eligible veterans' receiving case management services with employers. DVOPs perform outreach to areas seeking hard to reach veterans. DVOPs may also regularly provide outreach services to the Veterans Administration (VA), community partners or service agencies in an attempt to reach veterans throughout the community.

Case management services can be provided by DVOP personnel to eligible veterans and covered spouses. This may include referrals to and from the Department of Veterans Affairs, Vocational Rehabilitation and NJC partners. Eligible Veterans and eligible spouses are provided choices based upon need and the resources available to meet those needs.

The DVOP and LVER staff performs separate duties and services as outlined in VPL 07-10.

The DVOP staff performs both intensive and some core services as required. To ensure the appropriate documentation of intensive services, DVOP specialists include a combination of the following services, but at a minimum these two are required.

- Conduct an assessment (minimum requirement).
- Develop plan of action that is documented (minimum requirement).

Consistent with WIA Section 134(d) (3) (C), the intensive services category now is clarified to include:

- Comprehensive assessment of education, skills, and abilities;
- In-depth interviewing and evaluation to identify employment barriers and appropriate employment goals;
- Group and individual career coaching;
- Short-term pre-vocational services that may include development of learning and communication skills, interviewing skills, personal maintenance skills, and professional conduct to prepare individuals for career goals; and
- Development of an individual employment plan that identifies employment goals, interim objectives, and appropriate services that will enable the veteran to achieve the employment goal.
- In order to enhance some of the intensive services the DVOP may perform some of the following core services. These may includes outreach, job search and placement assistance, and providing labor market information during the case management process.

DVOP staff provides employment services to eligible veterans with the following priority in the provision of services:

- (A) Special disabled veterans.
- (B) Other disabled veterans.
- (C) Other eligible veterans in accordance with priorities determined by the Secretary taking into account applicable rates of unemployment and the employment emphases set forth in 38 USC, § 4103A chapter 42.

The following is a list of other populations of veterans considered for special emphasis. This is particularly for those who might require a significant cross-section of program services in order for them to fully and successfully participate in the work force. Such populations may include, but are not limited to:

- Disabled veterans:
- Veterans who served on active duty during a war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge or expeditionary medal has been authorized;
- Veterans participating in the VA's Coming Home to Work program;
- Homeless veterans and those veterans who are at risk of becoming homeless;
- Incarcerated veterans or those recently released from correctional institutions;
- Older veterans;
- Demobilizing National Guard/Reservists;
- Transitioning Service Members;
- Veterans residing in rural parts of the State; and
- Veterans residing on Native American reservations.

DVOP staff provides outreach to the following targeted veterans:

- VA VR&E offices:
- Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) grantees;
- Veterans' Workforce Investment Program (VWIP) grantees;
- Incarcerated veterans';
- VA Medical Centers and Vet Centers;
- Homeless shelters:
- Civic and service organizations;
- Community Stand Downs;
- Military installations:
- WIA partners: and
- State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies.

#### LVER staff:

- Working as a team and in conjunction with DVOP staff, contact local employers to do job development contacts for job ready disabled veteran and veteran clients;
- Facilitate employment, training, and placement services to eligible veterans;
- · Conduct seminars and workshops;
- Conduct outreach to employers;
- Planning and participation in job and career fairs;
- Coordination with unions, apprenticeship programs, and business organizations to promote employment and training programs for veterans;
- Informing Federal Contractors of their responsibility to recruit and retrain qualified veterans.

The Career Enhancement Program (CEP) is an employer-funded training and re-employment program that provides job seekers, in the specified sub-populations, with training to improve earning potential and increase job skills. The program will also provide, to job seekers, basic items necessary for job related expenses. The CEP program works closely with partners through a referral system to ensure that all identified populations are provided with the services available to them during their training and job search period. Job seekers have access to aptitude and skills proficiency testing, vocational guidance, individualized reemployment plans and labor market information, all designed to facilitate re-entry into the labor force.

Silver State Works (SSW) is an initiative created to address employers' needs by hiring prescreened qualified workers to staff their businesses. The SSW program identifies UI eligible participants, TANF or TANF eligible, Ex-Offenders, Veterans, Youth and Persons with Disabilities and refers them to exclusive job openings with the SSW program. In addition to job referral services, the SSW program partners with other programs such as but not limited to, CEP and Vocational Rehabilitation to provide additional services the identified sub-populations may need.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program is a federal program, available through the Nevada JobConnect system and the one-stop career centers, which assists workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade. The TAA program seeks to provide these trade-affected workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, resources, and support they need to become reemployed.

NJC staff are well versed in the requirements for the TAA program and if during an interview within the office it is discovered that the person may be TAA affected they are assisted with filing a petition request.

There are TAA representatives that attend Rapid Response events that are scheduled to provide information on TAA. Prior to DOL certification of a petition the local office representatives partner with WIA providers to provide core and intensive services which include identifying needs, addressing barriers, assisting with work readiness and exploring possible training needs. Once a petition is certified, participants undergo a vocational assessment in order to develop an individual employment plan that best fits their individual needs. If basic skill deficiencies are identified, the individuals can be enrolled in the State training program to remove those barriers. There are appointments scheduled every thirty days with the participant until they chose not to participate or enter employment.

The Statewide TAA Coordinator reviews all budgets for the TAA grant monthly and ensures that the expenditures are appropriate and allows for adequate funding for training, administration and case management activities. The Statewide TRA Coordinator manages the TRA, ATAA and RTAA grants in the same fashion. The TAPR is utilized as a quality control instrument for all programs.

Nevada is committed to ensuring that reemployment services continue to provide the bridge between employment services and the UI program. The Governor's vision includes the commitment that one stop services are available to all job seekers in Nevada and that the one stop system make a concerted effort to intervene with UI claimants to ensure that they are provided reemployment services prior to UI benefit exhaustion. Nevada received national recognition from the DOL in 2011 because of the efforts to combine REA with RES. It has been found that this provide a seamless service in our efforts to get Nevadans back to work. When compared to other states, Nevada's results suggest that the combination of REA and RES services may be more effective than either of these services alone.

UI claimants are selected and called in to the Nevada JobConnect offices by the WPRS system and the REA and RES initiatives. A primary component of each one of these initiatives is to provide the claimant information on the workforce system so the claimants are knowledgeable of the employment and training services that are available to assist in returning to work. The REA

and RES initial interview is a one-on-one interview and includes eligibility review, work search review and plan, reemployment plan, skill assessment, labor market information and referral to intensive services or short-term training if such services are needed or desired. Worker Profiling services are offered in a group orientation and provided by an assigned WPRS Facilitator. A Dislocated Worker (DW), Title 1 provider is invited to participate in the orientation. The orientation provides detailed information on Workforce Investment Act services, Labor Exchange services, state employment and training resources and Nevada Career Information System (NCIS). Each claimant then meets individually with a representative to go over eligibility review, develop a reemployment plan and a personalized work search plan.

WPRS services continue to be driven by the statistical model, which identifies claimants most likely to exhaust unemployment insurance benefits. These individuals will receive interventions that provide access to immediate services to enhance employability and remediate the likelihood that they will exhaust their unemployment benefits before they obtain new employment. The selectees are also identified as DW eligible and are offered additional DW services, if desired.

Reemployment services, such as those provided by the REA and RES initiatives, are demand driven in that UI claimants are strategically selected in response to employment or training opportunities that are available. The REA initiative has a selection system that allows the UI claimant population to be selected and sorted by such factors as occupational title, zip code, duration of benefits etc. This provides the REA and RES initiatives with the ability to quickly respond to employment or training opportunities by locating and calling in claimants whose interests, knowledge, skills and abilities align with job vacancies or training opportunities that are available, including employment and training opportunities.

The selection process utilized by Nevada's REA and RES initiatives allows the State to target those claimants with skills in certain sectors to ensure that the public workforce system can effectively respond to the recovery in any sector by having a workforce ready and prepared to fill any job vacancies that are created. This ability to respond strategically to the labor market improvements maximizes the effectiveness of Nevada's staff resources and ensures that the system is both responsive and effective in meeting the needs of the unemployed as well as the business community.

The Federal tax credit program administered in Nevada is the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC). During the interview process, staff determines eligibility and when referred to an employer, the jobseeker will be provided with a copy of the employer packet identifying the employer's potential tax credit if hired. This addresses how the state targets subpopulations identified in the economic analysis.

Nevada WOTC works closely with other state agencies and partner programs in sharing information regarding applicant eligibility or in providing technical program assistance. Some agencies contacted are: Nevada BVR, U.S. Probation, Nevada Department of Corrections, Nevada Parole & Probation, and Nevada Welfare.

In concert with the DOL brochures, Nevada is in the development stages of designing new brochures for jobseekers and employers. These new brochures will be distributed to all NJC offices and various state and/or private sector agencies. JobConnect staff promotes WOTC during their on-site employer visits and during jobseeker orientations.

To address the specific needs of the MSFW population, the State Monitor Advocate (SMA) works to ensure that MSFWs are informed of the services available to all job seekers by providing bilingual informational brochures. Efforts are made to provide equitable availability to programs within the NJC One Stop system. When hardships are identified, additional referrals are provided to various community service organizations.

• Serve the employment and training needs of individuals with disabilities. The discussion must include the state's long-term strategy to improve services to and employment outcomes of individuals with disabilities, including plans for the promotion and development of employment opportunities, job counseling, and placement for individuals with disabilities. (W-P Section 8(b); WIA Section 112(b)(17)(A)(iv), 20 CFR 663.230, 663.640, 667.275(a).)

Under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration (DOLETA) directed funds and resources to improve workforce services for individuals with disabilities, including those with psychiatric and other non-visible disabilities. Funding for the Disability Program Navigator (DPN) Initiative was in response to barriers to One-Stop services including physical and program accessibility, and meaningful and effective participation of job seekers in the workforce investment system.

Nevada participated in the DPN initiative from 2008 until the initiative's close out in 2011. The primary objective was to increase employment and self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities by enhancing contact between employers and One-Stop Career Centers. Nevada successfully increased program accessibility to all job seekers and also increased NJC staff awareness that improves workforce services for individuals with disabilities. Nevada continues to utilize the philosophies of the DPN initiative.

Individuals seeking services at a Nevada JobConnect office who have a disability which impairs their ability to work or which presents a barrier to their employment are offered the opportunity to meet with a representative of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation is co-located in each of Nevada's ten JobConnect offices. If the individual declines the referral to the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, the JobConnect staff would continue to provide services including employment counseling, mediated intake services, referral and training. All individuals with vision impairments or hearing impairments are advised of the available adaptive technology including JAWS, ZoomText UBI\_DUO and TTD. If needed, individuals would be trained by staff on the use of these tools. All individuals, including individuals with disabilities, are advised and, if necessary, trained on accessing available Nevada JobConnect services on line.

The co-location of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Security Division staff in the JobConnect offices provides a significant opportunity for the two organizations to work collaboratively to assist individuals with disabilities. Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation provides services to assist their clients overcome barriers to employment or develop skills which allow them to compete effectively in the labor market. Once the rehabilitation counselor determines they are job ready, they are often referred to the Employment Security Division Workforce Service Representatives for employment services. This collaboration allows the two organizations to leverage their resources to maximize the services available to the client. Throughout this collaboration, additional service delivery opportunities are evaluated to

determine if other services would be appropriate for the customer, including WIA Title I services.\

Nevada's Silver State Works program is a business driven incentive based hiring program which is designed to provide employment and training services to six populations. One of the six populations is the disabled. This program has two components. One provides a monetary hiring incentive to a business for hiring a Silver State Works client. The second provides training reimbursement to the business for a portion of their cost of training the client. This program provides significant assistance to those eligible, including the disabled, in securing both employment and training

• Deliver comprehensive services for eligible youth, particularly youth with significant barriers to employment. (WIA Section 112(b)(18)(A).) The discussion must include how the state coordinates youth activities, including coordination of WIA Youth activities with the services provided by the Job Corps program in the state. Job Corps services include outreach and admissions, center operations, and career placement and transition services. (WIA Sections 112(b)(18)(C), 129.)

The core functions of "Education and Workforce Development" are the target of collaborative strategic planning being conducted by the heads of DETR, Nevada System of Higher Education, and the Department of Education. Nevada will have the Governor's cabinet strategize to coordinate and augment the common activities related to the workforce goals to ensure alignment of policies and funding.

These activities will augment existing programs and services to serve youth, such as work permit activities, information sharing on minimum wage, and career exploration activities for out of school youth, homeless youth, youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, youth offenders, children of incarcerated parents, migrant and seasonal farmworker youth, and other youth at risk

Because Job Corp is only located in the Northern region of the state, Northern Nevada's Urban One Stop's regularly schedule presentations with Job Corp. The One-Stops make referrals to Job Corp for services and Job Corp will refer Youth seeking employment back to NJC.

The Governor's vision recognizes that an important group needing education and workforce training are youth, including youth most in need, such as out of school youth, homeless youth, youth in foster care, youth aging out of foster care, youth offenders, children of incarcerated parents, migrant and seasonal farmworker youth, Native American and Indian youth, youth with disabilities, and other youth at risk. Awareness by employers and the public of the resources available through the workforce system shall be enhanced through marketing and branding efforts.

Youth Services ensures that assistance is provided to low income or disabled youth facing multiple barriers to education, training, and employment. Pursuant to Section 129(c) (5), \$664.220 (a-h), and State Compliance Policy 2.1 it allows for youth who do not meet the income criterion, but face multiple barriers, to also be served (5-percent window).

The design framework of local youth programs ensure appropriate links to entities that foster the participation of eligible local area youth by providing these youth with information regarding the

full array of applicable and appropriate services available by referring these youth to appropriate training and educational programs that have the capacity to serve them either on a sequential or concurrent basis. These links include education agencies, law enforcement officials, Job Corps where available, local public housing authorities and representatives of other area youth initiatives, including those that serve homeless youth and other public and private youth initiatives. Throughout, this approach ensures that parents, youth participants, and other members of the community with experience relating to youth programs have been involved in both the design and implementation of our youth programs.

Local youth programs provide an objective assessment of each youth customer, including a review of the academic and occupational skill levels, as well as the service needs, of the youth. The assessment includes a review of basic and occupational skills, prior work experience, employability, interests, aptitudes, supportive service needs, and developmental needs.

Local programs have the discretion to determine what specific program services will be provided to a youth participant, based on each participant's objective assessment and individual service strategy. The individual service strategy for each youth customer is developed to identify an age-appropriate career goal, appropriate achievement objectives, and appropriate services for the participant based on the individual's assessment. This will prepare the individual for postsecondary educational opportunities, provide a linkage between academic and occupational learning, preparation for employment, and provide an effective connection to the job market and employers.

Youth services are provided by local grant or sub recipients and contractors for specialized services to provide adequate support in completing learning and employment goals. These include the ten program elements available to all youth participants as determined appropriate based on individual need through services of local area professionals;

- Tutoring, study skills training, and instruction leading to secondary school completion, including dropout prevention strategies;
- Alternative secondary school offerings;
- Summer employment opportunities directly linked to academic and occupational learning;
- Paid and unpaid work experiences including internships and job shadowing, when the objective assessment and individual service strategy indicate this is an appropriate activity;
- Occupational skill training;
- Leadership development opportunities, which may include such activities as positive social behavior and soft skills, decision making, team work, exposure to postsecondary educational opportunities, community and service learning projects, peer mentoring and tutoring, organizational and teamwork training, decision making skills, life skills training such as parenting, and work behavior training for employability;
- Supportive services; linkage to community services, assistance with transportation, childcare and dependent costs, housing costs, uniforms or other appropriate work attire and work –related tool costs and referrals to medical services;
- Adult mentoring for a duration of at least twelve months, that may occur both during and after program participation;
- Providing quality twelve month follow up services, support and guidance after placement to
  facilitate sustained employment and educational achievement, advancement along a job and or
  education ladder and personal development, based up on individual need;

 Comprehensive guidance and counseling, including drug and alcohol abuse counseling, as appropriate to the needs of the individual youth.

In all, the activities within this program present a comprehensive and cohesive group of services to the youth of Nevada.

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board's Youth Council meets on a regular basis to assist the GWIB by developing a statewide youth workforce blueprint and priorities, championing initiatives, and spearheading statewide coordination activities. To achieve its goals, the Council has partnered with Ready for Life® Nevada and supports a statewide movement to connect all Nevada youth to education or productive employment by age 25.

The GWIB State Youth Council will be comprised as follows, with a maximum of 13 voting members (other members can be invited to participate in an advisory capacity only):

- 3 Members of the GWIB, to include a chair appointed by the GWIB chair and a Co-Chair appointed by the Youth Council Chair, 1 Alternate
- 2 Chairs and/or designees for each Local Area Youth Council (North / South)
- 1 Member from DETR
- 1 Business Industry Council
- 1 Representative from Ready for Life® Nevada (non-voting member)
- Job Corps representative
- 1 Representative Nevada System Higher Education
- 1 Representative Department of Education K-12
- 1 Representative Department of Health & Human Services
- 1 Representative / Advocate for Foster Youth Population
- 1 Representative / Advocate for Juvenile Justice Population

# Youth Council Initiatives

Youth initiatives under a revised Governors Workforce Investment Board Youth Council will gain strength and focus using the following framework:

- The Youth Council will formulate a strategic plan that will incorporate special initiatives, ongoing programs, and the interaction with other youth oriented committees such as Ready for Life (a Nevada Public Education Foundation component), so that we can utilize other "best practice" ideas from other interested organizations.
- A DETR Workforce Solutions Unit team member has been assigned to each Industry Sector Council to focus on opportunities for youth training and development in each of the eight industry sectors. This representative will report activities, initiatives, and workforce training needs for each sector to the Youth Council (already in process).
- Agreement has been reached with the two largest school districts in Nevada, to highlight
  the youth Career Development Website launched by the DETR Research and Analysis
  Division, on their district websites. The same as being presented to the remaining school
  districts throughout the state. This website will be under the purview of the Youth
  Council (already in process).
- The Youth Council will be re-formed to oversee and coordinate the funding of special initiatives managed by the local boards that focus on dropout prevention programs such

- as Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG).
- The Youth Council strategic plan will also recognize that the jobs pipeline for the
  workforce of the future begins with our youth who are in high school, the military and
  nontraditional sectors.

(Bullet points 2 & 3 above have already been put into process. The other bullet points will start at the January 2013 Governors board meeting and will finish being memorialized in the Governor's board meeting in March. 2013.)

<u>Wagner-Peyser Agricultural Outreach</u>: Each state workforce agency shall operate an outreach program in order to locate and to contact migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFWs) who are not being reached by the normal intake activities conducted by the local offices. To this end, each state agency must include in its State Operational Plan an annual agricultural outreach plan, setting forth numerical goals, policies, and objectives. Regulations at 20 CFR 653.107 require that the outreach plan include the following elements:

- Assessment of need
- Proposed outreach activities
- Services provided to agricultural employers and MSFWs through the One-Stop delivery system
- · Numerical goals
- Data analysis

Agriculture is a significant part of the economy in several counties in Nevada. Nevada has identified that MSFW clients are transitioning to employment in other industries, particularly the service and hospitality with limited interest in agricultural employment. In addition competition from California's higher wage opportunities and MSFWs seeking other positions are affecting Nevada employers' ability to fill agricultural job openings.

The state will ensure that all NJC centers make employment and program information available to all MSFW customers. Training is provided to NJC staff on the MSFW Program interviewing and identifying MSFW clients, and providing equitable service. Agricultural workers are provided the full range of services at all NJC offices, both in urban and rural locations. DETR staff is currently reviewing outreach procedures to better identify and serve eligible MSFW clients with the limited resources available to the state. The DOL Wage and Hour Division established an office in Las Vegas and are actively investigating issues involving MSFW interests.

DETR will work with the GWIB, state and federal agencies, and private employers to accurately identify the MSFW population and ensure equitable service including referrals to support service, job development and career guidance.

Projections developed as part of the State Strategic Plan estimate growth of less than 0.3% annually through 2014. With better prospects for agricultural employment in adjoining states few MSFW job seekers are willing to travel to Nevada; however, the department will work to increase the placement level for agricultural job orders from 1.3 to 2.0 percent in the current program year.

The limited numbers of domestic workers currently available are insufficient to meet the needs of agricultural employers, which cause increased reliance on the Foreign Labor Certification, H-

2A program. H 2A application job orders are listed by industrial category and all one stop offices have access to foreign language assistance for clients, to provide information on opportunities available to the MSFW community, and to meet the requirements of the H 2A program.

MSFW Affirmative Action Review and Comments: The State Monitor Advocate is given the opportunity to review and comment on the State Affirmative Action Plan, also;

- Nevada is not a significant state,
- No significant Affirmative Action offices are located within the state.

NJC offices will identify twelve individuals who qualify under the MSFW criteria. Nevada has a total of seventeen MSFWs registered for service. Because of the low concentration of MSFWs within the state, Nevada is reviewing procedures to further identify MSFW persons within the state. Staff will continue to distribute bi lingual materials describing programs and resources available to assist MSFWs and their families. Outreach activities will also include conducting H-2A inspections and other related activities, which also assist with outreach activities.

#### **Data Analysis (Data Extracted from NJCOS records)**

- Previous Year's History (7/01/10-6/30/11)
   Number of Agricultural Openings Received: 2,079
   Number of Agricultural Openings Filled: 28
   Percent Filled: 1.3%
   Number of Interstate Clearance Orders Received: 31
   Number of Interstate Clearance Orders Transmitted: 49
- Plan for Upcoming Year (07/01/11 06/30/12)
  - Number of Agricultural Openings Received: 2,100

    Number of Agricultural Openings Filled: 42

    Percent Filled: 2.0%

    Number of Interstate Clearance Orders Received: 35

    Number of Interstate Clearance Orders Transmitted: 55

<u>Services to Employers</u>: The State Operational Plan must describe how the state will coordinate efforts of the multiple programs included in the plan to meet the needs of business customers of the One-Stop system in an integrated fashion, such as hiring plans, training needs, skill development, or other identified needs. The State Operational Plan should also describe how the state will use program funds to expand the participation of business in the statewide workforce investment system. (WIA Sections 111(d)(2), 112(a), 112(b)(8), 112(b)(10), W-P Section 8, 20 CFR 661.205(b)(1).)

Replaced by approved Modified Agricultural Outreach Plan 8/5/2013. Replacement verbiage follows:

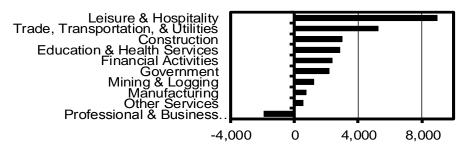
<u>Wagner-Peyser Agricultural Outreach</u>: Each state workforce agency shall operate an outreach program in order to locate and to contact migrant and seasonal farmworkers (MSFWs) who are not being reached by the normal intake activities conducted by the local offices. To this end, each state agency must include in its State Operational Plan an annual agricultural outreach plan, setting forth numerical goals, policies, and objectives. Regulations at 20 CFR 653.107 require that the outreach plan include the following elements:

- Assessment of need
- Proposed outreach activities
- Services provided to agricultural employers and MSFWs through the One-Stop delivery system
- Numerical goals
- Data analysis

#### I. Assessment of Need

- A. According to the United States Department of Agricultural (USDA), onions continue to be the largest crop with 1,523 openings in 2012. The majority of job orders in Nevada are related to the H-2A temporary work visa program, which provides the bulk of the temporary agricultural labor force within the State of Nevada.
- B. There were six (6) MSFW clients registered in Program Year 2011 (PY11) with one (1) indicating a desire to continue work in the agricultural sector. Employers opened 80 agricultural job orders with 2,010 openings. There were 181 referrals (less than 1%) and 22 placements (less than 1%). One (1) out of the six (6) MSFW clients registered in PY11 showed an interest continuing work in the agricultural sector within Nevada but also showed interest in other types of employment. This continues to be the trend of MSFW clients transitioning to employment in other industries, particularly the service and hospitality industries.
- C. Historically Nevada has registered a low number of MSFW clients. It is anticipated the level of agricultural activity will remain the same or decrease seeing that MSFW clients are interested in pursuing other job opportunities. According to Nevada's Labor Market Overview issued May 2013 reporting for the month of April 2013, the highest Non-Farm Jobs Growth has been Leisure and Hospitality with an increase of 2,100 jobs mainly from the Accommodation and Food Service sub-sector. Having said that, the vast Nevadan population seeks non-farm employment.

# Nevada Nonfarm Job Growth by Industry (year-to-date; year-over-year)



Source: Nevada Labor Market Overview April 2013

#### **II. Proposed Outreach Activities**

The State Monitor Advocate (SMA) in Nevada is a part-time funded position under the Employment Service Grant. The SMA is located in Carson City, Nevada. Working in Northern Nevada allows better access to the agricultural areas of the state given that most of the jobs are located in the Northern part. Additionally, the SMA is a Spanish language speaker improving communications with the MSFW community. For PY13, the SMA is forecasting coming into contact with a minimum of ten (10) MSFW clients. In order to identify MSFW clientele timely and accurately, the SMA is currently reviewing outreach procedures to incorporate into Nevada JobConnect (NJC) training to better serve eligible MSFW clients with equitable and quality services. In addition, the SMA will reach out to community partners and agencies where MSFW individuals or groups may congregate. Pamphlets and a poster will be distributed in English and Spanish to help direct individuals to services offered to MSFW clients. NJC staff will continue to work hand-in-hand with agricultural workers providing the full range of services at all the NJC offices in the urban and rural locations.

#### III. Assessment of Available Resources

- A. Agricultural activity is not predominant in Nevada compared to other states. The number of registered MSFW clients does not justify assigning more than one (1) individual to conduct outreach more than part-time. However, NCJ staff will be trained to accurately identity MSFW clients to provide equitable services and provide direction to other resources available.
- B. According to 20 CFR 653.107(h)(3)(i), the five (5) states with the highest estimated year-round MSFW activity shall assign, in accordance with the state merit staff requirements, full-time, year-round staff to outreach duties. Nevada does not fall into this category; historical trends have resulted in low MSFW activity. Having said that, there has not been a need to increase outreach staff to provide aid to the MSFW population.

The SMA currently conducting outreach is bilingual to assure better communication and understanding.

C. Currently MSFW clients can go into any of the ten (10) NJC centers located statewide and get prompt attention in providing a full range of job services, such as: vocational counseling, job referrals, testing and other job development services. The SMA has created bilingual brochures and a poster explaining the purpose and intent of the MSFW program, along with an explanation of Employment Security Division (ESD) services with contact and location information for all NJC centers. These brochures and poster have been placed with various organizations across Nevada for distribution in the past and will continue to be a means of outreaching to MSFW clients. Nevada will work on increasing contact with the MSFW population by networking and mirror other state outreach activities.

# IV. Services Provided to MSFWs and Employers through the Nevada JobConnect System

- A. Services to MSFW Clients: The SMA will work with state and federal agencies, and private employers to accurately identify the MSFW population and encourage participation in the Nevada JobConnect system. Services include referrals to jobs, staff assistance, referrals to supportive services, career guidance and job placement.
- B. Employer Services: Availability of agricultural workers is insufficient to meet the needs of agricultural employers, which results in increased reliance on the Foreign Labor Certification H-2A program. H-2A application job orders are listed by industry category; NJC centers are able to provide information on job opportunities available to the MSFW community through the H-2A program.

# V. Data Analysis (Data Extracted from NJCOS records)

A. Previous Year's History (PY 2011: July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012)

Number of Agricultural Openings Received: 2,010
Number of Agricultural Openings Filled: 22
Percent Filled: less than 1%

B. Plan for Upcoming Year (PY 2013: July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014)

Number of Agricultural Openings Received:1,950Number of Agricultural Openings Filled:19Percent Filled:1.00%Interstate clearance orders:75Initiated Interstate clearance orders:10

# VI. Other Requirements

A. The State Monitor Advocate (SMA) of Nevada has been given the opportunity to develop the Agricultural Outreach Plan for PY13. Data used in this plan has been obtained from Nevada JobConnect Operating System (NJCOS) and Nevada's Labor

Market Overview, which reflects Nevada's agricultural activity. In addition, the SMA looks forward to putting into practice strategies put forth in the Agricultural Outreach Plan for PY13 to reach out to MSFW who are not being reached by the normal intake activities.

B. This Plan was sent electronically to Nevada 167 grantee, Mountain Plains Agricultural Services, Western Range Association and Snake River Farmers Association. In hand, the associations sent the plan to all employers they support in Nevada. The following is the only comment received, submitted by Mr. Ron J. Hauge, Executive Director at Oregon Human Development Corporation (OHDC) and 167 grantee in Nevada:

"The plan recognizes that Nevada MSFW service levels have historically been low. The plan also notes that many MSFWs are interested in pursuing other job opportunities. In OHDC's view, this means there is great opportunity to improve DETR/ESD performance by performing outreach and recruitment for those MSFWs seeking non-agricultural employment in addition to those seeking to remain <u>in farmwork</u>. This would be more in line with the spirit of the Judge Ritchie court order by providing an equitable level of workforce services for MSFWs in a quantitatively and qualitatively similar manner, relative to all other workforce system customers."

OHDC's NFJP is eager to coordinate outreach and service provision strategies to enhance workforce service levels and outcome for northern Nevada MSFWs. The collaboration will provide several specific opportunities for outreach to the MSFW community, which will take into effect in the near future.

<u>WIA Single-Area States Only – Additional WIA Title I Requirements</u>: In states where there is only one local workforce investment area, the governor serves as both the state and local chief elected official. In such cases, the state must submit with its State Operational Plan any information required in the local plan. Therefore, states with a single workforce area should also include in their State Operational Plan:

- A copy of each memorandum of understanding between the local workforce investment board and each of the One-Stop partners concerning the operation of the One-Stop delivery system in the local area. (WIA Sections 112(b)(5), 116(b), 118(b)(2)(B), 20 CFR 661.350(a)(3)(ii).)
- Any comments from the public comment period that represent disagreement with the Plan. (WIA Sections 118(c)(3), 112(b)(9), 20 CFR 661.220(d), .350(a)(8).)
- The entity responsible for the disbursal of grant funds, as determined by the governor, if different from that for the state. (WIA Section 118(b)(8), 20 CFR 661.350(a)(9).)
- The type and availability of WIA title I Youth activities, including an identification of successful providers of such activities. (WIA Section 118(b)(6), 20 CFR 661.350(a)(7).)

(Optional) WIA Waiver Requests: States wanting to request waivers as part of their Operational Plan submission must attach a waiver plan, as required by 20 CFR 661.420(c), that includes the following information for each waiver requested:

- Statutory and/or regulatory requirements for which a waiver is requested.
- A description of the actions the state or local area has undertaken to remove state or local statutory or regulatory barriers.
- A description of the goals of the waiver, how those goals relate to Integrated Workforce Plan goals, and expected programmatic outcomes if the waiver is granted.
- A description of individuals impacted by the waiver.
- A description of the processes used to monitor implementation, provide notice to any local workforce investment board affected by the waiver, provide affected local workforce investment boards an opportunity to comment on the waiver request, and ensure meaningful public comment, including comment from business and labor.

# STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

# RAPID RESPONSE FUNDS FOR INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING/OTHER STATEWIDE ACTIVITIES

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title I B programs, request a waiver to use up to 20 percent of rapid response funds for incumbent worker training only as part of a layoff aversion strategy and other statewide activities that enhance services to dislocated workers. Statewide activities include:

The Silver State Works (SSW) initiative, announced by Governor Sandoval in his State of the State address, is designed to encourage employers to hire in order to move the state towards economic recovery and provide enhanced services to dislocated workers and assist workers in removing barriers to employment in order to promote a work first culture.

Silver State Works (SSW) contains three separate and distinct components.

Employer Based Training Program: This component allows laid-off workers who qualify for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits to simultaneously receive on-site workplace training and regular UI benefits. It provides a special training allowance of \$200.00 every two weeks for a maximum of \$600.00. Job seekers would be required to work 24 hours per week up to six weeks while continuing regular work search.

**Employer Incentive Job Program:** Employers will enter into a contract which establishes the agreed upon wage, number of hours to master the tasks, and the maximum amount of reimbursement based on the wage paid. Employers will be reimbursed up to a maximum of 50% of the participant's initial agreed upon gross wage for the contract period and a maximum of 40 hours per week.

<u>Incentive Based Employment:</u> This component supports employers who hire and retain eligible individuals in full-time employment (30 hours or more) by reimbursing a portion of wages paid in order to offset the costs associated with training and developing the employee into the employer's regular workforce. Upon completion and satisfying certain requirements, the employer may receive a wage retention supplement on average up to \$2,000.

To ensure businesses have the broadest range of choices, the selection of one of the three options above will be the decision of the business. It is anticipated that up to 10,000 unemployed Nevadans will participate in the three components of SSW.

The purpose of this waiver is to provide enhanced services to dislocated workers, and will not be used as a means to deliver WIA services to individuals who would not otherwise be served under a WIA program.

The State will be required to report performance outcomes for any Silver State participants including incumbent worker served under this waiver in the Workforce Investment Act Standardized Record Data (WIASRD) system.

It is in the best interest of Nevada and its citizens to seek a waiver due to the continued economic downturn in Nevada and reaching the highest unemployment rate since 1983 in the month of December 2010 (14.5% statewide and 14.9% in the Las Vegas Metropolitan area).

Waiver Duration: Program Year 2010 and subsequent years.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i) (4) (B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section §661.420(c).

### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

The State of Nevada requests a waiver from the provisions of Section 134 (a) (1) (A) of the Workforce Investment Act; 20CFR §663.145; §665.320(d) (2); §665.210 and §665.220

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The only known barriers are federal in nature as described above.

#### **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

This waiver is instrumental as a component in Nevada's workforce strategy, which is consistent with national policy direction, to develop amore integrated, efficient and effective workforce system.

The goals of this waiver are:

- Increase employer exposure to and use of the state's public workforce system.
- Increase employer/board collaboration to address industry needs and worker training.
- Investing public resources to support occupational, technical and/or soft skills training of incumbent workers as a practical layoff aversion strategy.
- Target industries, which offer high skill and high wage jobs, as part of Nevada's layoff aversion strategy.
- Improve the state's overall economic and business climate.
- Enhance the LWIBs ability to respond more quickly and efficiently to immediate local needs of employers and workers.
- Maintain and increase the competiveness of Nevada employers, allowing them to remain in business.
- Increase skills and wages for the incumbent workers and dislocated workers.
- Enhance employment, reemployment and job retention for job seekers and workers by providing education, training and other enhanced services necessary to assist dislocated workers.

- Enhance effective access of individuals and businesses to training and employment services that meet workforce needs.
- Provide greater flexibility in designing and implementing WIA programs

# Nevada's Overall Layoff Aversion Approach and How Incumbent Worker Training Fits Into that Strategy:

Unemployed workers are not the only Nevadans who need to increase their skills to gain and retain employment. Incumbent workers must also increase their skills for their employers to remain competitive in the global economy.

Investing public resources to support occupational, technical and/or soft skills training of incumbent workers is a practical layoff aversion strategy for the state and local areas. It is critical that funds used for incumbent worker training benefit the employer and employee, as well as improve the local area's economic outlook. The plan for incumbent worker training, as part of Nevada's layoff aversion strategy, will target industries and economic sectors, which offer high skill and high wage jobs.

If approved, this waiver will allow LWIBs the opportunity to provide incumbent worker training as part of an overall layoff aversion strategy and their overall service delivery to incumbent workers. In May 2010, Nevada's unemployment rate climbed to 14.0%, the highest in history and the use of labor market data alone cannot accurately predict where the demand for layoff aversions may be needed. Just identifying target industries and sectors alone is not a viable option. Rather than attempting to predict where incumbent worker strategies may be needed, Nevada will establish a two-tiered process for local areas who wish to establish incumbent worker training efforts:

- 1. A layoff aversion plan must be submitted by the local board and approved by the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR). The plan will be considered an amendment to the local area's local plan and must address the following:
  - The local area's overall layoff aversion strategies including establishing linkages with the economic development and employer communities;
  - The exact percentage of funds to be set aside;
  - A description of the various services and activities to be funded;
  - A target number of employers and/or employees that will benefit from the funds, and how these were identified;
  - · Assurance that the training is for high demand or high growth industries; and
  - Description of the eligibility criteria to be used to select employers and incumbent workers.
- 2. Once the layoff aversion plan is approved by DETR, LWIBs will be able to accept applications from employers. The application specific to the project must be provided to DETR for approval and include the following:
  - The type of training to be delivered and the skills acquired as a result;
  - Number of employees to be trained, names, job titles and current salary/wage;
  - Amount of funding requested;

- How employers were selected (announced layoffs through a WARN, other public notice, reduced employee hours or another indicator of economic difficulty, e.g., mid-range or lower Dun and Bradstreet scores);
- A determination that incumbent worker training is the appropriate solution for the employer and that the training will provide the employer with the skills it needs to maintain operations and avoid closure or lay-offs;
- Evidence of employer commitment, either to retain the employee or to pay the employee a higher wage.

# **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

The waiver is expected to benefit Nevada employers, job seekers and incumbent workers by maximizing training services to meet the need of a skilled workforce.

# **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation will ensure regular review of funds and activities to monitor outcomes and impacts and make appropriate adjustments as needed.

### **Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:**

The waiver was posted to the home page of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation for public comment. No comments were received.

## STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

# TRANSFER OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) TITLE 1B FUNDS BETWEEN THE ADULT AND DISLOCATED WORKER FUNDING STREAMS

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title IB programs, request an extension to this waiver, approved by USDOL in June 2005, of the legislative provisions calling for the transfer of no more than 30 percent of the program year's allocation between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams. The waiver would grant individual Local Areas, with the Governor's approval, the ability to transfer up to 50 percent of each program year allocation between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams.

**Waiver Duration:** July 1, 2012 and subsequent years or upon re-authorization of the Workforce Investment Act, whichever occurs later.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section §661.420(c).

#### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

Statute: P.L. 105-220, WIA Section 133(b)(4) and Regulations: 20 CFR, WIA Final Rules Section \$667.140(a); and Training and Employment Guidance Letter 23-02 provide that with the approval of the Governor, the Governor's Workforce Investment Board (GWIB) may transfer up to 30% of a program year's allocation for adult employment and training activities, and up to 30% of a program year's allocation for dislocated worker employment and training activities between the two Local Area programs.

In Nevada, the two Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIAs) are comprised of diverse economic and cultural communities that present unique challenges to the provision of WIA services. In addition, a disproportion of Nevadan's reside in the Las Vegas MSA (i.e. Clark County) which accounts for 70% of the state's population, versus those who reside in the balance of the sixteen (16) Nevada counties, necessitates the need for maximum flexibility in the transfer of funds.

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board has consistently advocated for local alliances through the establishment of the statewide Nevada JobConnect system that strengthen the level and mix of services to job seekers, as well as streamlining service delivery. However, local decisions have been constrained by Federal funding rules that limit funding and, thus, services to adults or dislocated workers seeking assistance to obtain or retain employment through the Nevada JobConnect system. Maximum flexibility in the transfer of funds would help ensure that services to both adults and dislocated workers would be maintained at levels sufficient to meet the distinct needs of each group. This flexibility would also help support local service plans that must integrate the cultural, educational, and employment-related needs unique to each local workforce community, both urban and rural.

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The Governor's Workforce Investment Board state policies are in compliance with current Federal guidelines. Upon notification of approval of this waiver request, WIA State Compliance policy Section 3.8 will be updated to comply with the revised timeframe of the waiver. The state policy outlines specific actions each Local Area must take in requesting the Governor's approval to modify or revise the Local Area's transfer rate (%) between the Adult and Dislocated Worker funding streams. Specific actions include, but are not limited to, a formal request to be submitted by the LWIA to the State for review and action, and formal modification of the Local Areas plan upon approval of an increased transfer rate, if applicable.

#### **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

- ➤ Enhance the ability of the Local Areas to respond to workforce and economic dynamics within their area
- > Increase local flexibility in the design and delivery of adult and dislocated worker services through the Nevada JobConnect system
- > Improve performance outcomes as a result of increased ability to provide needed services
- > Improve the ability of local boards to provide targeted assistance in response to the demands of the workforce, businesses and local communities
- > Increase business and individual customer satisfaction with the JobConnect system

The responsibility of Local Areas is to plan, oversee, and evaluate the delivery of WIA employment and training programs in their respective areas through the One-Stop service delivery system, in Nevada, the Nevada JobConnect system. Because of Nevada's size, its population distribution, its cultural diversity, and the remoteness of many of its communities, customer needs vary greatly from one local workforce investment area to the other and within the respective areas. The flexibility to transfer funds between the adult and dislocated worker programs allows Local Areas to respond more effectively to their individual communities.

With the waiver, Local Areas would be able to design programs that address the specific service priorities among their business and individual customers, and that lead to customer employment and eventual self-sufficiency. The waiver would also help position Nevada's workforce as a better skilled and more competitive workforce in the diversification of Nevada's economy.

#### **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

The waiver is expected to benefit Local Areas, Nevada JobConnect partner programs, employers, service providers, and WIA customers overall.

- ➤ Local Areas will have the flexibility to design and implement programs based on local needs and priorities
- ➤ Nevada JobConnect partner programs will be able to better align their service offerings with those of the local WIA Programs
- > Employers will be better served through job-seekers that acquire skills specific to each employer's needs
- ➤ WIA program participants will receive appropriate services based on client needs

> Funding will be utilized effectively and efficiently, resulting in an increase in the number of individuals to be served in the aggregate

#### **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Support Services Unit is charged with monitoring compliance with WIA requirements. Nevada's statewide performance tracking system, Nevada JobConnect Operating System, has the capability of continually assessing the effectiveness of the WIA programs. Waivers will not be granted to local workforce areas until appropriate policies and guidelines have been reviewed and approved by the Governor's Workforce Investment Board. These policies and guidelines will ensure that appropriate funding levels remain allocated to the needs of both adults and dislocated workers in the State of Nevada.

#### Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:

Nevada's two Local Areas will be notified via electronic submittal of this waiver request to afford them the opportunity to comment prior to formal submittal to USDOL-ETA. Preliminary endorsement of this waiver request has been received from both Local Areas. No comments were received during the public comment period.

#### Response to DOL question regarding AD-DW transfer

The transfer of funds between Adult and Dislocated Worker allows the local workforce investment boards to provide funding and services according to the need or demand for services and can go either way. Local areas have historically received more Adult Proposals than Dislocated Worker Proposals during the Request for Proposal process. Local Areas are able to fund more Adult Proposals with the help of the transfer. Without the transfer, they would have had unfunded Adult Proposals and had additional Dislocated Worker carryover funding.

The AD-DW transfer has been crucial for Local areas to allow sub-recipients to deliver additional sorely needed intensive and training services to the most in need group of program participants. This is a most effective use of critically limited resources. With transfer flexibility, WIA program dollars can be targeted for specific employment and training services where they count the most.

# STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

#### EMPLOYER REIMBURSEMENT RATE FOR ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title I B programs, requests a waiver of the reimbursement rate of 50 percent to employers for providing on-the-job training opportunities for adults, dislocated worker and older youth to a match based on a sliding scale ranging from 10 to 35 percent for the employer match.

Specifically the Governor shall establish or may authorize the Local Areas to establish the sliding scale, which shall be not less than 10 percent of the costs for employers with 50 or fewer employees; 25 percent of the costs for employers with 51 to 100 employees; 35 percent for employers with 101 - 250 and 50 percent of the costs for employers with more than 251 employees.

It is in the best interest of Nevada and its citizens to seek a waiver of the required 50 percent or less of the wage reimbursement rate due to the continued economic downturn in Nevada and reaching the highest unemployment rate since 1983 in the month of March 2009.

Waiver Duration: Through June 30, 2013 and subsequent years.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section \$661.420(c).

#### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

Section 101 (31)(B) of the Workforce Investment Act and §663.710(b).

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The only known barriers are federal in nature as described above.

# **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

- By removing the requirement for a 50 percent employer match toward the cost of on-the-job training, Local Areas and their service providers will be able to more effectively market on-the-job to the private sector and building or expanding relationships with employers in demand/high growth industries.
- The proposed waiver will increase the responsiveness of the Local Areas in dealing with the increased number of unemployed Nevadans during this economic downturn.
- The proposed sliding scale will provide the Local Areas with greater flexibility for responding to changes in their local labor markets.
- The sliding scale will allow Local Areas to serve those businesses that demonstrate the greatest need for financial assistance to support economic development.

- Will ensure that WIA funds allocated to each local area are being utilized in a way that will meet the needs of the business community.
- The proposed sliding scale will provide the required match at a level more suited to their size and should increase participation in the on-the-job training program at the local level.
- The waiver will increase the number of employers using on-the-job training as a means to hire and retain skilled workers.

#### **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

The waiver is expected to benefit both Nevada employers and the large number of unemployed Nevadans. Employers will benefit from the waiver due to the reduced match requirement. This will make on-the-job training a more attractive option for acquiring workers trained to their specifications. The waiver will also have a positive impact on unemployed Nevadans eligible for services under WIA.

## **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Support Services unit will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver through annual on-site reviews.

#### Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:

The waiver was posted to the home page of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) for public comment. Both Local Areas were notified via electronic submittal of this waiver request to afford them the opportunity to comment prior to the formal submission to USDOL-ETA. Endorsement of this waiver request has been received from both Local Areas.

## STATE OF NEVADA WIA WAIVER REQUEST

#### WIA Youth ITA For Older and Out-of-School Youth

## **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), Nevada's administrative entity for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I-B programs, request a waiver for WIA Section 123 and \$664.510, which excludes the use of Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) for older and out-of-school youth. Approval of this waiver would allow youth to select training providers from the eligible training provider (ETP) list.

**Waiver Duration**: Date approved by the Employment and Training Administration through June 30, 2013 and subsequent years or upon re-authorization of the Workforce Investment Act.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section 661.420(c).

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing this waiver. The only know barriers are federal in nature as described above.

#### **Goals to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

This waiver will expand the service delivery options for older and out-of-school youth. It will allow youth, who are not following an academic track, but are more employment-focused, the same access to ITAs for training services as adults and dislocated workers.

Eliminate the need for co-enrollment in either the adult or dislocated worker program, and streamline the process for youth assessed to be in need of training services.

To increase efficiency and customer choice for the older and out-of-school youth, while reducing some of the administrative costs of procuring training providers for youth.

Charging the ITA cost to the youth program instead of adult or dislocated worker program would reduce the dependence on the limited adult/dislocated worker funds and would increase the funds applied to the 30 percent out-of-school expenditure rate, which is a requirement for youth funds.

#### **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

- Older and out-of-school youth will benefit because they will be able to select from a list of certified training providers and will receive services more quickly.
- Local Areas will benefit because they will not have to direct their resources to costly and time-consuming, competitive procurements.

• Training providers will benefit because they will not have to follow two separate procedures to provide training for adults and dislocated workers, which require certification, and for older and out-of-school youth, which require competitive bidding.

## **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

Once the waiver is approved, the WIA State Compliance Policy Section 1.9 – Individual Training Accounts, will be revised to reflect the use of ITAs for both older and out-of-school youth.

The compliance instrument for on-going review of youth records in the Nevada JobConnect Operating System will be changed to include which training provider was selected and to ensure provider is on the current ETP list.

#### Process for Notice to the Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:

The waiver was posted to the home page of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) for public comment. The Southern Local Area requested the waiver, and both Local Areas discussed and approved the waiver at the March 10 Workforce Development Coordination Meeting, a meeting between DETR and Local Area's staff.

#### STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

#### EMPLOYER MATCH FOR CUSTOMIZED TRAINING

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title I B programs, request a waiver for the required 50 percent employer match for customized training at WIA 101(8) to a match based on a sliding scale, ranging from 10 to 50 percent for the employer match.

Specifically, the Governor shall establish or may authorize the Local Areas to establish the sliding scale, which shall be not less than 10 percent of the costs for employers with 50 or fewer employees; 25 percent of the costs for employers with 51 to 100 employees; and 50 percent of the costs for employers with more than 100 employees.

It is in the best interest of Nevada and its citizens to seek a waiver of the required 50 percent employer match for customized training due to the continued economic downturn in Nevada and reaching the highest unemployment rate since 1983 in the month of December 2010.

Waiver Duration: Program Year 2012 and subsequent years.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section §661.420(c).

#### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

Section 101 (8) (C) of the Workforce Investment Act and §663.715 (c).

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The only known barriers are federal in nature as described above.

## **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

- By removing the requirement for a 50 percent employer match toward the cost of customized training, Local Areas and their service providers will be able to more effectively market customized training to the private sector and build or expand relationships with employers in demand/high growth industries.
- The proposed sliding scale will provide the Local Areas with greater flexibility for responding to changes in their local labor markets and other demand-driven needs of the business community.
- The sliding scale will allow Local Areas to serve those businesses that demonstrate the greatest need for financial assistance to support economic development.

- The proposed sliding scale will provide the required match at a level more suited to business size and should increase participation in the customized training program at the local level.
- The waiver will increase the number of employers using customized training as a means to train/retrain their workers for higher paid/higher skilled positions.

## **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

The waiver is expected to benefit both Nevada employers and the large number of underemployed and lower skilled Nevadans. Employers will benefit from the waiver due to the reduced match requirement. This will make customized training a more attractive option for training workers to their unique specifications.

#### **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Support Services unit will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver through annual on-site reviews.

#### Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:

The waiver was posted to the home page of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation for public comment. Both Local Areas were notified via electronic submittal of this waiver request to afford them the opportunity to comment prior to the formal submission to USDOL-ETA. Endorsement of this waiver request has been received from both Local Areas.

#### STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

#### SEVENTEEN STATUTORY WIA PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board, and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title IB programs, requests a waiver of the 17 (15 core and 2 customer satisfaction) performance indicators. This waiver request will enable Nevada's Workforce Investment Act programs to implement the six (three adult and three youth) common performance measures as presented by the U.S. Department of Labor in Training and Employment Guidance Letter 17-05 beginning July 1, 2007.

**Waiver Duration:** July 1, 2013 and subsequent years or upon re-authorization of the Workforce Investment Act, whichever occurs later.

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section 661.420(c).

#### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

Section 136 of the Workforce Investment Act.

Nevada is requesting this waiver to implement common measures in order to simplify and streamline the statewide performance accountability system, which we believe is crucial to the seamless delivery of services.

It is in the best interest of Nevada and its citizens to seek a waiver of the current statutory performance measures for WIA Title 1B programs. This will allow the state to adopt the common measures developed by USDOL, which we believe will ultimately yield improved case management and coordination across multiple programs, as well as resulting in improved performance and enhanced customer service.

#### **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The only known barriers are federal in nature as described above.

#### **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

With the shift to the six standards under common measures, Nevada would achieve the following goals:

- Eliminate duplicative administrative systems, which will reduce paperwork and labor costs associated with redundant data collection. Examples include:
  - ➤ Eliminate the tracking and performance for
    - a. the credential measure for Adults and Dislocated Worker clients
    - b. the skill attainment measure for Younger Youth; and

- the current Customer Satisfaction measurement system required by the USDOL;
- 2) Enhance integration of the Nevada JobConnect System by use of a single measurement system to test performance for all employment and training programs within
- 3) Better implementation the USDOL's Strategic Vision for Services to Youth, with emphasis on out-of-school populations with increased accountability for employment and/or increased secondary and post-secondary education outcomes.
- 4) Cost Savings through streamlining. A simplified and streamlined performance measurement system is more cost effective. With consistent direction, program resources can be directed to a single set of goals, rather than competing goals and costly processes.

USDOL requires states to report on the current 17 measures in addition to the six common measures. By requesting a waiver to remove Nevada from the original measures, the state avoids a duplication of efforts in reporting and is able to apply its diminishing resources where they are most needed.

#### **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

The waiver is expected to benefit the Local Areas, their service providers and our WIA customers. Customers from any program that become a part of the common measures process will be impacted. However, approval of this waiver will positively impact all customers by providing accountability while improving program management and performance.

#### **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Support Services unit will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver through a combination of performance reporting and local level input. Nevada's statewide performance tracking system, Nevada JobConnect Operating System, has the capability to continually assess the performance levels of both Local Areas and the performance results achieved following the adoption of common measures.

Service provider case management staff and others will be looked to for feedback and asked to discuss issues related to the common measures process and to address issues as they arise.

#### **Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:**

Nevada's two Local Areas were notified via electronic submittal of this waiver request to afford them the opportunity to comment prior to formal submittal to USDOL-ETA. Preliminary endorsement of this waiver request has been received from both Local Areas.

# STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

Date: December 2, 2011

State: Nevada

Agency: Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

#### Statutory and/or regulatory requirements to be waived

Waiver of WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iii) and 20 CFR 665.200(e) requiring provision of incentive grants to local areas.

## Actions undertaken to remove state or local barriers

There are no state or local barriers.

#### Goals and expected programmatic outcomes of waiver

The reduction to five percent in the WIA allotment for Program Year 2011 Governor's Reserve funds restricts the state's ability to effectively fund and carry out all of the required statewide workforce investment activities. The current funding level in the Governor's Reserve is insufficient to cover the cost of incentive grants to local areas. The state's reduced funds are being used to cover the following required activities:

- o operating fiscal and management accountability information systems (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(vi) and 20 C.F.R. 665.200(b)(1)),
- o submitting required reports (WIA Section 136(f)),
- o disseminating the list of eligible training providers for adults and dislocated workers (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(i) and 20 C.F.R. 665.200 (b)(1)), and youth activities (20 C.F.R. 665.200(b)(4)), and
- o Providing technical assistance to poor performing local areas (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(iv) and 20 C.F.R 665.200(f)).
- o Conduct evaluations (WIA Section 134(a)(2)(B)(ii) and 20 CFR 665.200(d))
- o Disseminate training provider performance and cost information (20 CFR 665.200(b)(3)).
- o Required rapid response activities, as described in § 665.310;
- o Information identifying eligible providers of on-the-job training (OJT) and customized training;
- Disseminate a list of eligible providers of youth activities as described in WIA section 123;
- Assisting in the establishment and operation of One-Stop delivery systems, in accordance with the strategy described in the State workforce investment plan. (WIA sec. 112(b)(14).)
- Providing additional assistance to local areas that have high concentrations of eligible youth.

Our goal in seeking this waiver is to ensure that the state may prioritize the use of Governor's Reserve funds for the required activities we deem most essential to the basic functions of the workforce investment system.

#### <u>Individuals impacted by the waiver</u>

This waiver will provide the state agency with more flexibility in directing Governor's Reserve funds to those activities that best preserve basic functions of the statewide workforce investment system.

## Process for monitoring progress in implementation

The State will monitor progress and ensure accountability for Federal funds in connection with these waivers by reviewing monthly expenditure, performance and other reports, through regular contact with the ETA Regional Office liaisons, and through its monitoring and performance accountability system.

#### Notice to affected local boards

The State of Nevada will follow legislatively required notice policy as well as a direct communication to the local boards of the waiver request.

#### **Public Comment**

(Public comment will be included at the end of the comment period and prior to submission.)

#### STATE OF NEVADA WAIVER REQUEST

#### INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING AT THE LOCAL AREA LEVEL

The Governor's Workforce Investment Board and the State of Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Nevada's administrative entity for WIA Title I B programs, request a waiver allowing a portion, up to twenty percent of WIA Dislocated Worker formula funds and ARRA Dislocated Worker funds to be utilized to operate an incumbent worker training program at the local workforce investment board (LWIB) level.

These funds would be utilized in the same manner as statewide activities funding for incumbent worker programs specifically for layoff aversion at the local level. The State will be required to report performance outcomes for any incumbent worker served under this waiver in the Workforce Investment Act Standardized Record Data (WIASRD) system.

Due to the continued economic downturn in Nevada and having reached the highest unemployment since 1983 in the month of May 2010 at 14.0%, it is in the best interest of Nevada, its employers and residents to seek a waiver allowing LWIBs to operate an incumbent worker program at the local level.

Waiver Duration: Program Year 2010 and subsequent years

This waiver request follows guidelines identified in WIA Section 189(i)(4)(B) and WIA Final Rules at 20 CFR Section 661.420(c).

#### **Statutory and Regulatory Sections to be Waived:**

The State of Nevada requests a waiver from the provisions of WIA Section 134 (use of funds for employment and training activities), as well as a waiver from the provisions of WIA 20 CFR \$663.145 regarding the use of WIA Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker formula funds to allow local areas to operate an incumbent worker program as described under Section 134(a)(3) (A)(iv)(I) and 20 CFR \$665.210 and \$665.220.

## **State or Local Statutory Regulatory Barriers:**

There are no known state or local statutory or regulatory barriers to implementing the waiver. The only known barriers are federal in nature as described above.

## **Goals and Programmatic Outcomes to be Achieved by the Waiver:**

The implementation of the incumbent worker program waiver will enhance overall WIA programs and activities at the local level. Providing additional flexibility for the use of formula and ARRA funds will enable LWIBs to tailor their programs to meet demands of local employers, and the needs of incumbent workers.

The goals of this waiver are:

- Increase employer exposure to and use of the state's public workforce system.
- Investing public resources to support occupational, technical and/or soft skills training of incumbent workers as a practical layoff aversion strategy.
- Target industries, which offer high skill and high wage jobs, as part of Nevada's layoff aversion strategy.
- Improve the state's overall economic and business climate.
- Enhance the LWIBs ability to respond more quickly and efficiently to immediate local needs of employers and workers.
- Maintain and increase the competiveness of Nevada employers, allowing them to remain in business.
- Increase skills and wages for the incumbent workers.

## How goals relate to Nevada's Strategic Plan goals:

The mission of Nevada's workforce development system is to provide Nevada businesses with access to a qualified workforce, assist residents of Nevada in achieving their career goals, and help strengthen Nevada's economic health by supporting businesses and their employment needs.

The goals above support Nevada's strategic plan by:

- Focusing on statewide and regional alignment and leveraging resources;
- Establishing more effective public and private partnerships including economic development; and
- Developing and implementing sector strategies to meet workforce demands of regional and industry sectors.

#### **Expected Programmatic Outcomes:**

The waiver provides the flexibility for the LWIBs to increase their services and become more responsive and innovative in meeting the needs of employers in the local area.

It is anticipated that the waiver will enhance the ability of LWIBs to improve job retention, avoid layoffs, and increase the competitiveness of the employers in the local area.

# Nevada's Overall Layoff Aversion Approach and How Incumbent Worker Training Fits Into that Strategy:

Unemployed workers are not the only Nevadans who need to increase their skills to gain and retain employment. Incumbent workers must also increase their skills for their employers to remain competitive in the global economy.

Investing public resources to support occupational, technical and/or soft skills training of incumbent workers is a practical layoff aversion strategy for the state and local areas. It is critical that funds used for incumbent worker training benefit the employer and employee, as well as improve the local area's economic outlook. The plan for incumbent worker training, as part of Nevada's layoff aversion strategy, will target industries and economic sectors, which offer high skill and high wage jobs.

If approved, this waiver will allow LWIBs the opportunity to provide incumbent worker training as part of an overall layoff aversion strategy and their overall service delivery to incumbent workers. In May 2010, Nevada's unemployment rate climbed to 14.0%, the highest in history and the use of labor market data alone cannot accurately predict where the demand for layoff aversions may be needed. Just identifying target industries and sectors alone is not a viable option. Rather than attempting to predict where incumbent worker strategies may be needed, Nevada will establish a two-tiered process for local areas who wish to establish incumbent worker training efforts:

- 3. A layoff aversion plan must be submitted by the local board and approved by the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR). The plan will be considered an amendment to the local area's local plan and must address the following:
  - The local area's overall layoff aversion strategies including establishing linkages with the economic development and employer communities;
  - The exact percentage of funds to be set aside;
  - A description of the various services and activities to be funded;
  - A target number of employers and/or employees that will benefit from the funds, and how these were identified;
  - Assurance that the training is for high demand or high growth industries; and
  - Description of the eligibility criteria to be used to select employers and incumbent workers.
- 4. Once the layoff aversion plan is approved by DETR, LWIBs will be able to accept applications from employers. The application specific to the project must be provided to DETR for approval and include the following:
  - The type of training to be delivered and the skills acquired as a result;
  - Number of employees to be trained, names, job titles and current salary/wage;
  - · Amount of funding requested;
  - How employers were selected (announced layoffs through a WARN, other public notice, reduced employee hours or another indicator of economic difficulty, e.g., mid-range or lower Dun and Bradstreet scores);
  - A determination that incumbent worker training is the appropriate solution for the
    employer and that the training will provide the employer with the skills it needs to
    maintain operations and avoid closure or lay-offs;
  - Evidence of employer commitment, either to retain the employee or to pay the employee a higher wage.

If the waiver is approved DETR will develop a WIA State Compliance Policy to provide guidance to the LWIBs on implementing incumbent worker training at the local level.

# Plan for How the Incumbent Worker Training Will Be Delivered:

Occupational skills training will be designed to meet the special requirements of the employer, which has demonstrated a commitment to continue to retain all trained workers upon successful completion of the training. Training is also expected to provide skills for employees, which will permit advancement to higher skilled, higher paying jobs and job retention.

To avert layoffs, training will provide the skills that result in the employer being able to adjust to a changing economic climate by providing the jobs necessary to do so.

# The Criteria Nevada Will Consider In Identifying Appropriate Uses of Incumbent Worker Training:

It will be the responsibility of the LWIBs to set priorities for the use of incumbent worker training as part of a layoff strategy. By the time the State receives a WARN notice, it is often too late for incumbent worker training to avert the layoff. Early warning of layoffs will usually occur at the local level through established partner networks or because of longstanding relationships with individual employers.

Criteria will be collaboratively developed by the LWIBs in collaboration with state agencies, service providers, organized labor and economic development agencies, etc. Employers will be selected where economic indicators demonstrate a need for incumbent worker training as part of a layoff aversion strategy.

#### **Individuals Impacted by the Waiver:**

This waiver will benefit:

- The participating employers and incumbent workers.
- The employees, employers, the state and local areas will be better served is the employee can be assisted while employed rather than them becoming unemployed.
- Entire communities within the state by allowing local areas to quickly adapt to economic conditions.
- Businesses so they can remain open and competitive and keep their workers employed.

This front end assistance will be less costly over time than the impacts of a business shutting down and laying off employees. The flexibility of this waiver will encourage LWIBs to increase their services and become more responsive and innovative to meeting existing and new customers' needs.

For the purposes of this program, an incumbent worker is defined as "an individual currently employed in an existing non-public business in Nevada." Training will be provided to affected incumbent workers at risk of layoff due to the skill requirements they need in order for the employer to remain competitive or increase competitiveness.

## **Process Used to Monitor Progress in Implementing the Waiver:**

The Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Workforce Investment Support Services unit will monitor the implementation and impact of the waiver through quarterly and fiscal reviews and reports. The LWIBs will be required to report on the following participant data:

- Name of participants and SSN
- · Names of participants who complete training
- Type of training provided
- Length of training provided
- Name of program participants who received a credential or certificate
- Program participant's wage at completion of training and six months after completion
- Names of participants whose job classification changed or skills were upgraded.

## **Process for Notice to Public and Local Boards and the Opportunity to Comment:**

The waiver was posted to the home page of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) for public comment. No comments were received. Both LWIBs were notified via electronic submittal of this waiver request to afford them the opportunity to comment prior to the formal submission to USDOL-ETA. Endorsement of this waiver request has been received from both LWIBs.

<u>Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA):</u> States must describe how TAA will coordinate with WIA/W-P to provide seamless services to participants and address how the state:

- Provides early intervention (e.g. Rapid Response) to worker groups on whose behalf a TAA petition has been filed. (WIA Sections 112(b)(17)(A)(ii), 134(a)(2)(A), 20 CFR 665.300-.340.)
- Provides core and intensive services to TAA participants, especially where TAA-funded case management services are not available. The description should provide detailed information on how assessments are utilized to identify participants' service needs, including whether participants need training according to the six criteria for TAA-approved training. (20 CFR 617.21(c), 617.22(a))
- Has developed and managed resources (including electronic case management systems) to integrate data provided through different agencies administering benefits and services (TAA, Trade Readjustment Allowances, Unemployment Insurance, Employment Security, WIA, etc.) in order to ensure consistent program administration and fiscal integrity, as well as reliable fiscal and performance reporting. (May alternatively be discussed in "operating systems and policies" section of Operating Plan.) (WIA Sections 112(b)(8)(A), (B).)

Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA)

Through referral to WIA Title I services integration and aligning of services has been accomplished. WIA Title I providers are active participants in on-site Rapid Response activities, and co-enrollment with TAA is completed when applicable.

The State ensures that Rapid Response assistance and appropriate core and intensive services are made available to those covered by TAA. Under TAA, applicants are assessed to see if they are candidates for training, and if so, they are referred for co-enrollment in the dislocated worker program. The NJC staff and other partners may refer to the Trade Act Assistance Guide for program information. A feedback mechanism has been established between the NJCOS and UI GUIDE system to indicate a TAA registration.

Rapid Response activities following either a permanent closure or mass layoff, or a natural or other disaster resulting in a mass job dislocation, or workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade are: Immediate and on-site contact with the employer, representatives of the affected workers, and the local community to provide information and access to unemployment compensation benefits, comprehensive One-Stop system services, and employment and training activities, including information on the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA).

If at all possible, the Rapid Response staff will schedule an on-site presentation to the workers, during company time, to deliver the appropriate information on unemployment compensation benefits, comprehensive One-Stop system services, and employment and training activities, including information on the Trade Adjustment Assistance in coordination with the TAA Coordinator. If the employer is not amenable to an on-site presentation, the Rapid Response staff will prepare packets containing the relevant information. These packets are sent to the businesses if the employer does not make the names and addresses of the affected employees available.

NJC staff are well versed in the requirements for the TAA program and if during an interview within the office it is discovered that the person may be TAA affected they are assisted with filing a petition request.

There are TAA representatives that attend Rapid Response events that are scheduled to provide information on TAA. Prior to DOL certification of a petition the local office representatives partner with WIA providers to provide core (including intake) and intensive services which include identifying needs, addressing barriers, assisting with work readiness and exploring possible training needs. Once a petition is certified, participants undergo a vocational assessment in order to develop an individual (re)employment plan that best fits their individual needs. If basic skill deficiencies are identified, the individuals can be enrolled in the appropriate training program to remove those barriers. There are appointments scheduled every thirty days with the participant until they chose not to participate or enter employment.

The Statewide TAA Coordinator reviews all budgets for the TAA grant monthly and ensures that the expenditures are appropriate and allows for adequate funding for training, administration and case management activities. The Statewide TRA Coordinator manages the TRA, ATAA and RTAA grants in the same fashion. The TAPR is utilized as a quality control instrument for all programs.

# (Optional) SCSEP: States that include SCSEP in the Integrated Workforce Plan must include:

- Long-term projections for jobs in industries and occupations in the state that may provide employment opportunities for older workers. (May alternatively be discussed in the economic analysis section of strategic plan.)
- A description of the state's long-term strategy for serving older workers under SCSEP. (May alternatively be discussed in the state strategies section of strategic plan.)
- A description of actions to coordinate SCSEP with other programs. This may alternatively be discussed in the state strategies section of the strategic plan, but regardless of placement in document, must include:
  - Planned actions to coordinate activities of SCSEP grantees with WIA title I programs, including plans for using the WIA One-Stop delivery system to serve individuals, aged 55 and older.
  - Actions to coordinate activities of SCSEP grantees with other Older Americans Act (OAA) activities carried out by the state.
  - Actions to coordinate SCSEP with other private and public entities that provide services to older Americans, and planned actions to coordinate SCSEP with other job training initiatives.
  - Actions to ensure that SCSEP is an active partner in the One-Stop delivery system and the steps the state will take to encourage and improve coordination with the One-Stop delivery system.
- The state's long-term strategy for engaging employers to develop and promote opportunities for the placement of SCSEP participants in unsubsidized employment. (May alternatively be discussed in the state strategies section of strategic plan.)
- The state's long-term strategy for achieving an equitable distribution of SCSEP positions within the state that:
  - o Move positions from over-served to underserved locations within the state.
  - o Equitably serves rural and urban areas.

- Serves individuals afforded priority for service under 20 CFR 641.520. (20 CFR 641.302(a))
- The ratio of eligible individuals in each service area to the total eligible population in the state. (20 CFR 641.325(a))
- The relative distribution of eligible individuals who:
  - o Reside in urban and rural areas within the state
  - o Have the greatest economic need
  - o Are minorities
  - Are limited English proficient.
  - o Have the greatest social need. (20 CFR 641.325(b))
- A description of the steps taken to avoid disruptions to the greatest extent possible, when positions are redistributed, as provided in 20 CFR 641.365. (20 CFR 641.325(i))
- A list of community services that are needed and the places where these services are most needed. Specifically, the plan must address the needs and location of those individuals most in need of community services and the groups working to meet their needs. (20 CFR 641.330)
- A discussion of how the long-term job projections discussed in the economic analysis section of strategic plan relate to the types of unsubsidized jobs for which SCSEP participants will be trained and the types of skill training to be provided. (20 CFR 641.302(d))
- The state's long-term strategy to improve SCSEP services, including planned longer-term changes to the design of the program within the state, and planned changes in the use of SCSEP grantees and program operators to better achieve the goals of the program. This may include recommendations to the Department as appropriate. (20 CFR 641.302(k))
- The state's strategy for continuous improvement in the level of performance for SCSEP participants' entry into unsubsidized employment, and to achieve, at a minimum, the levels specified in OAA Section 513(a)(2)(E)(ii).

NOTE: The Department's Fiscal Year 2012 Budget proposes to move SCSEP to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This is not applicable in Nevada.

## Section III. Integrated Workforce Plan Assurances and Attachments

This section provides a "check-the-box" table of assurance statements and a single signature sheet to certify that the information provided by the state, and submitted to the Department, in the following table is accurate, complete, and meets all legal and guidance requirements. The table below contains the assurance statements, the legal reference that corresponds to each statement, and a column for the state to provide a reference to the document(s) that it believes meets the stated assurance or where the statute requires documentation of a policy or procedure. Such a reference may be a hyperlink to an on-line document or it may be an attachment. Not all assurances require documents to be attached or referenced. Where an approved special exemption, waiver, or an approved alternate structure makes an assurance not applicable to your state, please insert the words "Not Applicable" in the reference column.

By checking each assurance, attaching the proper documentation or links, and signing the certification statement at the end of the document, the state is certifying it has met each of the legal planning requirements outlined in WIA law and regulations and in corresponding Department guidance. By checking each box and signing the certification statement, the state is also indicating that its supporting documentation meets all applicable Federal and state laws and regulations and is available for review. Any deficiencies in the documentation attached to each assurance identified during the state plan review process may result in additional technical assistance and a written corrective action as part of the Department's conditional approval of the state's Integrated Workforce Plan. Assurances of the state's agreement duplicated that are part grant are not here.

# ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS – PLANNING PROCESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

		SSURANCES AND ATTACITIVENTS - TEANNING TROCESS AND TO	DEIC COMMENT	DOCUMENTA TION
		STATEMENT	REFERENCE	DOCUMENTATION and COMMENTS
1.	$\boxtimes$	The state established processes and timelines, consistent with WIA Section	WIA Sections	http://nvdetr.org/worforce i
		111(g), to obtain input into the development of the Integrated Workforce	112(b)(9), 111(g)	nvestment_pages/Policies/1.
		Plan and to give opportunity for comment by representatives of local elected	20 CFR 661.207	2.PDF
		officials, local workforce investment boards, businesses, labor	20 CFR 661.220(d)	
		organizations, other primary stakeholders, and the general public.	20 CFR 641.325(f)	
			20 CFR 641.325(h)	
2.	$\boxtimes$	The state afforded opportunities to those responsible for planning or	WIA Sections	The state plan was posted for
		administering programs and activities covered in the Integrated Workforce	112(b)(9), 111(g)	review and comment on the
		Plan to review and comment on the draft plan.	20 CFR 661.207	DETR website from July 26,
			20 CFR 661.220(d)	2012 to August 29, 2012.
3.	$\boxtimes$	The final Integrated Workforce Plan and State Operational Plan are		Once the State Plan is
		available and accessible to the general public.		approved by DOL, it will be
		·		located on DETR's website
				for access to the general
				public.
4.	$\boxtimes$	The state afforded the State Monitor Advocate an opportunity to approve	WIA Sections	No comments were received.
		and comment on the Agricultural Outreach Plan. The state solicited	112(b)(9), 111(g)	
		information and suggestions from WIA 167 National Farmworker Jobs	20 CFR 661.207	
		Program grantees, other appropriate MSFW groups, public agencies,	20CFR 661.220(d)	
		agricultural employer organizations, and other interested organizations. At	20 CFR 653.108(f)	
		least 45 days before submitting its final outreach, the State provided a	, ,	
		proposed plan to the organizations listed above and allowed at least 30 days		
		for review and comment. The State considered any comments received in		
		formulating its final proposed plan, informed all commenting parties in		
		writing whether their comments have been incorporated and, if not, the		
		reasons therefore, and included the comments and recommendations		
		received and its responses with the submission of the plan.		
5.	$\boxtimes$	In the development of the plan, the state considered the recommendations	20 CFR 653.108(t)	No recommendations were
٥.		submitted by the State Monitor Advocate in the annual summary of services	20 CFR 033.100(t)	received.
		to Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers.		receiveu.
		to migrain and spasonal pathiworkers.		

6.	$\boxtimes$	The state established a written policy and procedure to ensure public access	WIA Sections 111(g),	http://nevadabudget.org/inde
		(including people with disabilities) to board meetings and information	112(b)(9), 117(e)	<u>x.</u>
		regarding board activities, such as board membership and minutes.	20 CFR 661.207	
7.	$\boxtimes$	Where SCSEP is included in the Integrated Workforce Plan, the state	20 CFR 641.325(f)	N/A.
		established a written policy and procedure to obtain advice and	20 CFR 641.325(h)	
		recommendations on the State Plan from representatives of the State and		
		area agencies on aging; State and local boards under the WIA; public and		
		private nonprofit agencies and organizations providing employment		
		services, including each grantee operating a SCSEP project within the state,		
		except as provided under section 506 (a)(3) of OAA and 20 CFR		
		641.320(b); Social service organizations providing services to older		
		individuals; Grantees under Title III of OAA, Affected Communities,		
		Unemployed older individuals, Community-based organizations serving		
		older individuals; business organizations and labor organizations		

# ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS - REQUIRED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

	STATEMENT	REFERENCE	<b>DOCUMENTATION</b> or
			COMMENTS
8.	The state made available to the public state-imposed requirements, such as	WIA Sections	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
	state-wide policies or guidance, for the statewide public workforce system,	112(b)(2), 129, 134	<u>ce_investment_pages/WIA_P</u>
	including policy for the use of WIA title I statewide funds.	20 CFR 665.100	<u>olicies.htm</u>
9.	The state established a written policy and procedure that identifies	WIA Sections	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
	circumstances that might present a conflict of interest for any state or local	112(b)(13), 111(f),	ce investment pages/Policie
	workforce investment board member or the entity that s/he represents, and	117(g)	<u>s/1.1.PDF</u>
	provides for the resolution of conflicts. The policy meets the requirements		
	of WIA Sections 111(f) and 117(g).		
10.	The state has established a written policy and procedure that describes the	WIA Sections	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
	state's appeals process available to units of local government or grant	112(b)(15), 116(a)(5)	ce_investment_pages/Policie
	recipients that request, but are not granted, designation of an area as a local	20 CFR 661.280	<u>s/1.1.PDF</u>
	area under WIA Section 116.	20 CFR 667.700	
11.	The state established written policy and procedures that describe the state's	20 CFR 667.640	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
	appeal process for requests not granted for automatic or temporary and	20 CFR 662.280	ce_investment_pages/Policie
	subsequent designation as a local workforce investment area.		<u>s/1.1.PDF</u>

be used by chief elected officials for the appointment of local workforce investment board members.  13.   The state established written policy and procedures to ensure local workforce investment boards are certified by the governor every two years.  Whas Sec 117(c)  20 CFR 661.325  Whas Sec 111(c), (b)  11 (e), (b)  11 (e), (b)  20 CFR 661.325  Whas Sections  11 (e), (b)  11 (e), (e)  20 CFR 661.210  Whas Sections  11 (b), (	orfor olicie es not ty.
13.     The state established written policy and procedures to ensure local workforce investment boards are certified by the governor every two years.    Where an alternative entity takes the place of an SWIB, the state has written policy and procedures to ensure the alternative entity meets the definition under section 111(e) and the legal requirements for membership.    Where the alternative entity does not provide representative membership of the categories of required SWIB membership, the state has a written policy or procedure to ensure an ongoing role for any unrepresented membership group in the workforce investment system. (Only applicable in cases where a state uses an alternative entity as its SWIB, and that entity does not provide for representative membership by individuals in the categories required by WIA sec. 111(b).)    When applicable, the state takes any action necessary to assist local areas in developing and implementing the One-Stop system.   WIA Sections   The State of Nevada developing and implementing the One-Stop system.   WIA Sections   The State of Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Interi/detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Inttp://detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Interi/detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequent   WIA Sections   Interi/detr.state.nv.us/Nevada developing and implementing initial and subsequen	es not
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	orfor
eligibility of training providers.	<u>olicie</u>
122, 134(d)(4) $s/1.3.pdf$ .	
20 CFR 663.515,	
663.535	
18. All partners in the workforce and education system described in this plan WIA Section 188 <a href="http://detr.state.nv.us/v">http://detr.state.nv.us/v</a>	orkfo
will ensure the physical, programmatic, and communications accessibility of W-P Section 8(b) rce_investment_	
facilities, programs, services, technology, and materials for individuals with 29 CFR part 37 pages/Policies/4.2.PDF	
disabilities in One-Stop Career Centers. 20 CFR 652.8(j)	
19. The state ensures that outreach is provided to populations and sub- WIA Section 188 <a href="http://detr.state.nv.us/v">http://detr.state.nv.us/v</a>	orfor
populations who can benefit from One-Stop Career Center services. 29 CFR 37 <u>ce_investment_pages/I</u>	olicie
<u>s/1.4.pdf</u>	

20.	$\boxtimes$	The state implements universal access to programs and activities to all	WIA Section 188	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
		individuals through reasonable recruitment targeting, outreach efforts,	29 CFR 37.42	ce_investment_pages/Policie
		assessments, services delivery, partnership development, and numeric goals.		s/4.1.PDF
21.	$\boxtimes$	The state complies with the nondiscrimination provisions of section 188,	WIA Section 188	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
		including that Methods of Administration were developed and implemented.	29 CFR 37.20	ce_investment_pages/Policie
				<u>s/4.1.PDF</u>
22.	$\boxtimes$	The state collects and maintains data necessary to show compliance with	WIA Section 185	http://detr.state.nv.us/worfor
		nondiscrimination provisions of section 188.		ce investment pages/Policie
				<u>s/4.1.PDF</u>
23.	$\boxtimes$	For WIA Single-Area States only, the state has memorandums of	WIA Sections	N/A
		understanding between the local workforce investment board and each of	112(b)(5), 116(b),	
		the One-Stop partners concerning the operation of the One-Stop delivery	118(b)(2)(B), 20 CFR	
		system in the local area.	661.350(a)(3)(ii)	

# ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS - ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDS

		STATEMENT	REFERENCE	<b>DOCUMENTATION</b> and
				COMMENTS
24.	$\boxtimes$	The state established written policy and procedures that outline the methods	WIA Sections	See Attachment E
		and factors used in distributing funds, including WIA Adult, Dislocated	111(d)(5),	
		Worker, and Youth formula and rapid response funds. The policy	112(b)(12)(A), (C),	
		establishes a process for funds distribution to local areas for youth activities	128 $(b)(3)(B)$ ,	
		under WIA Section 128(b)(3)(B), and for adult and training activities under	133(b)(2)(B),	
		WIA Section 133(b), to the level of detail required by Section	133(b)(3)(B)	
		112(b)(12)(a). In addition, the policy establishes a formula, prescribed by	20 CFR 661.205(e)	
		the governor under Section 133(b)(2)(B), for the allocation of funds to local		
		areas for dislocated worker employment and training activities.		
24	$\boxtimes$	For Dislocated Worker funding formulas, the state's policy and procedure	WIA Section	See Attachment E
a.		includes the data used and weights assigned. If the state uses other	133(b)(2)(B)	
		information or chooses to omit any of the information sources set forth in	20 CFR	
		WIA when determining the Dislocated Worker formula, the state assures	667.130(e)(2)(i)-(ii)	
		that written rationale exists to explain the decision.	, , , , ,	

25.	The state established a written policy and procedure for how the individuals and entities represented on the SWIB help to determine the methods and factors of distribution, and how the state consults with chief elected officials in local workforce investment areas throughout the state in determining the distributions.	WIA Sections 111(d)(5), 112(b)(12)(A), 128(b)(3)(B) 20 CFR 661.205(e)	See Attachment F
26.	The state established written policy and procedures for any distribution of funds to local workforce investment areas reserved for rapid response activities, including the timing and process for determining whether a distribution will take place.	WIA Sections 133(a)(2), 134(a)(2)(A) 20 CFR 667.130(b)(2), (e)(4), 665.340	See Attachment E
27.	The state established written policy and procedures to competitively award grants and contracts for WIA Title I activities.	WIA Section 112(b)(16)	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_i nvestment_pages/Policies/3. 9.PDF
28.	The state established written criteria to be used by local workforce investment boards in awarding grants for youth activities, including criteria that the governor and local workforce investment boards will use to identify effective and ineffective youth activities and providers of such activities.	WIA Sections 112(b)(18)(B), 123, 129	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_i nvestment_pages/Policies/2. 2.PDF
29.	The state established written criteria for a process to award a grant or contract on a competitive basis for Summer Youth Employment Opportunities element of the local youth program, where a provider is other than the grant recipient/fiscal agent.	WIA Sections 123, 129(c)(2)(C) 20 CFR 664.610.	N/A
30.	The state distributes adult and youth funds received under WIA equitably throughout the state, and no local areas suffer unnecessarily significant shifts in funding from year-to-year during the period covered by this plan.	WIA Section 112(b)(12)(B)	See attachment E
31.	Nevada DETR established written fiscal-controls and fund-accounting procedures and ensures such procedures are followed to ensure the proper disbursement and accounting of funds paid to the state through funding allotments made for WIA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth programs, and the Wagner-Peyser Act. These procedures are routinely tested by U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) monitoring visits and through the annual OMB A-133 Single Audit. The procedures are used for all grants but are modified or tailored as necessary for specific grants. Nevada DETR uses	WIA Sections 112(b)(11), 127, 132, 184 29 USC 49(h), (c) 20 CFR 652.8(b), (c)	Nevada DETR established written fiscal-controls and fund-accounting procedures and ensures such procedures are followed to ensure the proper disbursement and accounting of funds paid to the state through funding

		the Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) program administered by the		allotments made for WIA
		State of Nevada Division of Internal Audit to ensure these procedures and		Adult, Dislocated Worker,
		practices meet certain standards of fiscal and administrative control.		and Youth programs, and the
				Wagner-Peyser Act. These
				procedures are routinely
				tested by U.S. Department of
				Labor (DOL) monitoring
				visits and through the annual
				OMB A-133 Single Audit.
				The procedures are used for
				all grants but are modified
				or tailored as necessary for
				specific grants. Nevada
				DETR uses the Self-
				Assessment Questionnaire
				(SAQ) program administered
				by the State of Nevada
				Division of Internal Audit to
				ensure these procedures and
				practices meet certain
				standards of fiscal and
				administrative control.
32.	$\boxtimes$	The state ensures compliance with the uniform administrative requirements	WIA Sections	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_in
		in WIA through annual, onsite monitoring of each local area.	184(a)(3), (4)	vestment_pages/Policies/5.7.
			20 CFR 667.200,	PDF
			.400(c)(2), 667.410	
33.	$\boxtimes$	The state follows confidentiality requirements for wage and education	WIA Sections	The WRIS wage agreement
		records as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of	136(f)(2), (f)(3), 122,	policies are followed to protect
		1974 (FERPA), as amended, WIA, and applicable Department regulations.	185(a)(4)(B)	the privacy and personally
			20 USC 1232g	identifiable information for the
			20 CFR 666.150	employer and client.
			20 CFR part 603	Personally identifiable Information is sent using a
				Secure Transport system
				Secure Transport system

(Tumbleweed). This system is accessible to only those who have signed the WRIS wage agreement and is password protected. Wages and educational records are used for reporting purposes only. These reports do not provide any personally identifiable information. Documentation is recorded in the Internal Procedures of the Automated Systems Report Procedures, Section - 1. Procedures for Educational and Personal identity protection responsibilities for paper or electronic files are found in the State Compliance Policies, WIA Section 5.4. Protection of this confidential information is stated both electronically on the site prior to accessing client information and through written agreement for all users of the system prior to providing access to the system.

In addition, DETR is subject to Nevada Revised Statutes 239 and 239B which govern the way a public entity handles personal information

http://www.leg.state.nv.us/N

				RS/NRS-239.html
				http://www.leg.state.nv.us/N
				RS/NRS-239B.html
34.	$\boxtimes$	The state will not use funds received under WIA to assist, promote, or deter	WIA Section	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_in
		union organizing.	181(b)(7)	vestment_pages/Policies/3.1.
			20 CFR 663.730	<u>PDF</u>

# ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS - ELIGIBILITY

		STATEMENT	REFERENCE	<b>DOCUMENTATION</b> and
				COMMENT
35.	$\boxtimes$	Where the SWIB chooses to establish them, the state established definitions	WIA Sections	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_i
		and eligibility documentation requirements regarding the "deficient in basic	101(13)(C)(i)	nvestment pages/Policies/2.
		literacy skills" criterion.	CFR 664.205(b)	<u>1.PDF</u>
36.	$\boxtimes$	Where the SWIB chooses to establish them, the state established definitions	WIA Sections	N/A
		and eligibility documentation requirements regarding "requires additional	101(13)(C)(iv)	
		assistance to complete and educational program, or to secure and hold	20 CFR 664.	
		employment" criterion.	200(c)(6), 664.210	
37.		The state established policies, procedures, and criteria for prioritizing adult	WIA Section	http://nvdetr.org/worforce_i
		title I employment and training funds for use by recipients of public	134(d)(4)(E)	nvestment_pages/Policies/1.
		assistance and other low-income individuals in the local area when funds	20 CFR 663.600	7.pdf
	•	are limited.		

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38.	The state established policies for the delivery of priority of service for	WIA Sections	See Attachment C
	veterans and eligible spouses by the state workforce agency or agencies,		
	local workforce investment boards, and One-Stop Career Centers for all	38 USC Chapter 41	
	qualified job training programs delivered through the state's workforce	20 CFR 1001.120-	
	system. The state policies:	.125	
	1. Ensure that covered persons are identified at the point of entry and given	Jobs for Veterans	
	an opportunity to take full advantage of priority of service; and	Act, P.L. 107-288	
	2. Ensure that covered persons are aware of:	38 USC 4215	
	a. Their entitlement to priority of service;	20 CFR 1010.230,	
	b. The full array of employment, training, and placement	1010.300310	
	services available under priority of service; and		
	c. Any applicable eligibility requirements for those programs and/ or		
	services.		
	3. Require local workforce investment boards to develop and include		
	policies in their local plan to implement priority of service for the local		
	One-Stop Career Centers and for service delivery by local workforce		
	preparation and training providers.		

# ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS - PERSONNEL AND REPRESENTATION

	STATEMENT	REFERENCE	DOCUMENTATION and
	STATEMENT	REFERENCE	COMMENTS
39.	The state assures that Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) significant office requirements are met.	WIA Section 112(b)(8)(A)(iii), 112(b)(17)(A)(iv)	See Attachment B
	Note: The five states with the highest estimated year-round MSFW activities must assign full-time, year-round staff to outreach activities. The Employment and Training Administration designates these states each year. The remainder of the top 20 significant MSFW states must make maximum efforts to hire outreach staff with MSFW experience for year-round positions and shall assign outreach staff to work full-time during the period of highest activity.	112(b)(17)(A)(iv) W-P Sections 3(a), (c)(1)-(2) 20 CFR 653.107(a), 107(i), 653.112(a), 653.108(d)(1)	
	If a state proposes that its State Monitor Advocate work less than full-time, the state must submit, for approval by the Department, a plan for less than full-time work, demonstrating that the state MSFW Monitor Advocate function can be effectively performed with part-time staffing.		
40.	Merit-based public employees provide Wagner-Peyser Act-funded labor exchange activities in accordance with DOL regulations.	W-P Sections 3(a), 5(b) 20 CFR 652.215 Intergovernmental Personnel Act, 42 USC 4728(b)	In Nevada, all Wagner- Peyser services are provided by merit-based state employees
41.	The state has designated at least one person in each state or Federal employment office to promote and develop employment opportunities, job counseling, and placement for individuals with disabilities.	W-P Section 8(b) 20 CFR 652.211	See Attachment B
42.	If a SWIB, department, or agency administers state laws for vocational rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, that board, department, or agency cooperates with the agency that administers Wagner-Peyser services.	W-P Section 8(b) 20 CFR 652.211	In Nevada, Voc Rehab and Wagner Peyser are both located within DETR. Voc Rehab personnel are also colocated in Wagner Peyser offices.

# STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES CERTIFICATION

The State, Commonwealth, or Territory of Nevada certifies on the 19 <sup>th</sup> day of September in 2012 that it complied with all of require components of the Workforce Investment Act, and Wagner-Peyser Act. The State, Commonwealth, or Territory also assures the funds will be spent in accordance with the Workforce Investment Act and the Wagner-Peyser Act and their regulations, written Department of Labor guidance implementing these laws, and all other applicable Federal and state laws and regulations.
Governor
Date

#### Attachment A

## PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION DESIGNEES AND PLAN SIGNATURES

Name of WIA Title I Grant Recipient Agency:

<u>Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation</u> Address: 500 East Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713

Telephone Number: (775) 684-3911 Facsimile Number: (775) 684-3908 E-mail Address: fawoodbeck@nvdetr.org

#### Name of State WIA Title I Administrative Agency (if different from the Grant Recipient):

Address:	
Telephone Number: Facsimile Number:	
E-mail Address:	

Name of WIA Title I Signatory Official: Frank Woodbeck, Director Address: Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

500 East Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713

Telephone Number: (775) 684-3911 Facsimile Number: (775) 684-3908 E-mail Address: frwoodbeck@nvdetr.org

Name of WIA Title I Liaison: Renee Olson, Administrator

Address: Employment Security Division

500 East Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713

Telephone Number: (775) 684-3909 Facsimile Number: (775) 684-3910 E-mail Address: rlolson@nvdetr.org

#### Name of Wagner-Peyser Act Grant Recipient/State Employment Security Agency:

Renee Olson, Administrator

Address: Employment Security Division

500 East Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713

Telephone Number: (775) 684-3909 Facsimile Number: (775) 684-3910 E-mail Address: rlolson@nvdetr.org

## Name and title of State Employment Security Administrator (Signatory Official):

<u>Dennis A. Perea, Deputy Director</u> Address: <u>Employment Security Division</u>

500 East Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713

<u>Telephone Number: (702) 486-6637</u> Facsimile Number: (775) 684-3910 E-mail Address: daperea@nvdetr.org As the governor, I certify that for the State/Commonwealth/Territory of Nevada, the agencies and officials designated above have been duly designated to represent the State/Commonwealth/Territory in the capacities indicated for the Workforce Investment Act, title I, and Wagner-Peyser Act grant programs. Subsequent changes in the designation of officials will be provided to the U.S. Department of Labor as such changes occur.

I further certify that we will operate our Workforce Investment Act and Wagner-Peyser Act programs in accordance with this plan and the assurances herein.

Typed Name of Governor_	Brian Sandoval		
Signature of Governor		Date	

#### Attachment B

State of Nevada
Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation
Employment Security Division
Workforce Investment Support Services
WIA-WP State Plan

## ASSURANCES AND ATTACHMENTS -PERSONNEL AND REPRESENTATION

The State of Nevada uses a part time State Monitor Advocate (SMA) to administer the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworker (MSFW) program. This is justified by the small number of MSFW customers within the state. Since 2007, Nevada has registered less than ten individuals per year, which the State believes is an accurate indication of the number of individuals in the state. There is a limited amount of agricultural activity in Nevada compared to adjoining states where workers can better obtain employment within the industry. MSFW customers who do come to Nevada are usually seeking more settled employment in the hospitality and other service industries.

Nevada is committed to identify and provide equitable service to MSFW customers. The SMA provides annual program training at all Nevada JobConnect (NJC) offices and is available for staff questions at all times. Foreign language assistance is available at all NJC offices. Nevada has no significant offices and the small number of agricultural workers limits the effectiveness of on site visitation. The SMA is reviewing outreach procedures to identify nongovernmental service agencies serving MSFW customers to share services available through Nevada's JobConnect system. The SMA is also closely involved with the Job Service Complaint System and actively participates in the writing of annual plans and program reports. Department staffing is continually reviewed by senior management but at this time believes that the program needs are met with part time staffing.

Assurance Items 37, 39.

### GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

MEMBER NAME:	REPRESENTS:
Brown, Mary-Ann	Youth – Northern Nevada
Cato, Jo	Business – Southern Nevada
Cato, 80	Nevada State Senate
Manendo, Senator Mark	
Egan, Pamela	Labor
Geinzer, Douglas	Business – Southern Nevada
Vacant	Department of Health and Human Services
Grost, Kathy	Business – Northern Nevada
James, Eric	Business – Southern Nevada
	Nevada State Assembly
Kirkpatrick, Assemblywoman Marilyn	
Tissemoly Wolland Walling II	Nevada State Senate
Kihuen, Senator Ruben	
Lee, Richard (Vice-Chair)	Business – Statewide
Martin, Leslie	Business – Rural Nevada
Woodbeck, Frank	Director, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation
Ohrenschall, Assemblyman James	Nevada State Assembly
Vacant	Nevada's Department of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Salazar, Maria	Business – Southern Nevada
Sheehan, Dr. Maria	Nevada System of Higher Education
Shipley, Dennis	Business – Southern Nevada
Wilson, Geoffrey	Business – Northern Nevada
Woodring, Bradley	Chair, Nevadaworks/ <b>Business</b> – Northern Nevada

**Workforce Investment Act State Compliance Policies** 

NJC Section: 5 Program Eligibility/Priority of Services to Veterans October 2011

#### I. Introduction:

With the passage of Federal Rule (Part II, 20CFR Part 1010) dated December 19, 2008, Veterans Program Letter 07-09 dated November 10, 2009 and Training and Employment Guidance Letter No. 10-09 dated November 10, 2009. Priority of Service will be provided to veterans, eligible spouses and eligible veterans. Priority of Services means (with respect to any qualified job training program) that a covered person shall be given priority over a non-covered person for the receipt of employment, training and placement services provided under that program. The implementation of these rules calls for Priority of Service to be implemented by all "qualified job training programs". These are defined as "any workforce preparation, development or delivery program or service that is directly funded, in whole or in part, by the Department of Labor."

### **II.** Key Definitions:

- **A. Covered persons:** Veterans or the eligible spouse of a veteran.
- **B.** <u>Veteran</u>: The definition for *veteran* specified at 38 U.S.C. 101(2) applies across all qualified job training programs for the purpose of priority of service. That definition includes two key criteria:
  - 1. Service in the active military, naval, or air service; for a minimum of one day and;
  - 2. Discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

#### C. Eligible Veteran: (eligible to receive DVOP/LVER services)

The term "Eligible Veteran" in paragraph 4 of 38 USC 4211 means a person who:

- 1. Served on active duty for a period of more than 180 days and was discharged or released with other than a dishonorable discharge;
- 2. Was discharged or released from active duty because of a service-connected disability; or
- 3. As a member of a reserve component under an order to active duty pursuant to section 672 (a), (d), or (g), 673, or 673b of title 10, served on active duty during a period of war or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge is authorized and was discharged or released from such duty with other than a dishonorable discharge. (See the list of

wars, campaigns, and expeditions that qualify for veterans' priority of service at <a href="http://www.opm.gov/staffingportal/vgmedal2.asp">http://www.opm.gov/staffingportal/vgmedal2.asp</a>

#### D. Eligible Spouse (Non-veterans who are dependents of veterans):

- 1. The spouse of any person who died of a service-connected disability.
- 2. The spouse of any member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who, at the time of application for assisted is listed in one or more of the following categories for more than ninety (90) days:
  - a. Missing in action;
  - b. Captured in the line of duty by a hostile force;
  - c. Forcibly detained or interned in line of duty by a foreign government or power.
- 3. The spouse of any person who has total permanent disability resulting from a service-connected disability.
- 4. Or a spouse of a veteran who dies while a disability so evaluated was in existence.

The United States Department of Labor (USDOL) provides additional clarification for "1" and "4" above by indicating that the re-marriage of the spouse would not terminate their eligibility. However, if a spouse becomes divorced from a veteran under "2" and "3" above, eligibility for priority of service is terminated.

It is further understood that this policy does not exclude from eligibility spouses who were not citizens at the time that the veteran was discharged or retired, nor does it stipulate that a spouse had to be married to a veteran at the time of his or her discharge or retirement.

### E. Categories eligible to receive LVER and DVOP services:

Only the following two categories are eligible to receive services from LVER and DVOP staff:

- 1. Eligible veteran
- 2. Eligible Spouse
- F. Non-Covered Persons: Non-veterans
- **G. Point of Entry:** The point at which customers first come into contact with DOL-funded employment and training programs.

### III. Identifying Covered Persons at Point of Entry [20 CFR 1010 – §1010.300]:

**A.** Both WIA and Wagner-Peyser recipients of funds for qualified job training programs implement an intake screening processes in accordance with § 1010.300 that identifies covered persons at the point of entry. This is undertaken so the covered person can be notified of their eligibility for priority of service,

- **B.** Covered persons are provided information explaining their entitlement to priority of service and the full array of employment and training services available. They are advised there may be eligibility requirements the covered person must meet in order to gain entry into the program or to be provided services by the program.
- **C.** At the at the point of entry the covered persons are not required to verify their status as a veteran or eligible spouse unless they immediately undergo eligibility determination with the intention of immediate enrollment in a program requiring such verification.

#### IV. Implementing Priority of Services: Federal Rule (Part II, 20 CFR Part 1010)

Priority of Service means the right of eligible covered persons to take precedence over eligible non-covered persons in obtaining services. Taking precedence may mean:

- **A.** The covered person receives access to the service or resource earlier in time than the non-covered person.
- **B.** If the service or resource is limited, the covered person receives access to the service or resource instead of or before the non-covered person.
- C. Eligibility for WIA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs are not affected by the veterans' priority. Priority of services for WIA programs is available only to veterans, eligible spouses and eligible veterans who meet the program's eligibility requirements.

#### ATTACHMENT E

# Workforce Investment Act State of Nevada Workforce Investment Act - Internal Policy

# Policy for Workforce Investment Act Allocation w/out Governor's Reserve – May 2012

#### 1. Initial Allocation of the new grant

- 1. Determine total federal policy year allocation.
- 2. Subtract from federal policy allocation: Statewide Governor Reserve (10%) Statewide Administration Reserve (5%) Total Statewide Reserve (15%)

Calculate remaining amount.

3. Up to 25% of the Dislocated Work Allocation is reserved for Rapid Response. The remainder of the grant is allocated to the local level.

All rapid response funds are reserved by the state to carry out statewide rapid response activities. A local area may request rapid response funds over and beyond their regular dislocated worker allocation. To request this additional funding the local area must submit a proposal in writing that at a minimum outlines the following:

- Description of project
- Rationale of why normal DW funds are not sufficient, including verification of obligation of current DW funds
- Proposed budget
- Proposed performance outcomes, including number of participants served and the timeframe to complete the project outcomes
- 2. Allotment Amounts Used to calculate amounts for Adult, Youth and Dislocated Worker Programs as specified in the below criteria.

#### A. Adult and Youth Allotments

- 1) 33 1/3 % allotted on basis of relative number of unemployed individuals in areas of substantial unemployment (ASU) compared to total # of unemployed individuals in all ASU (statewide).
- 2) 33 1/3 % allotted on basis of relative excess number of unemployed individuals in the local area compared to the total excess number of unemployed individuals (statewide).
- 3) 33 1/3 % allotted on basis of relative number of disadvantaged adult (or youth) in each area compared to the total number of disadvantaged adult (or youth) statewide.

#### **B.** Dislocated Worker Allotment

- 1) Insured unemployment @ 20%
- 2) Unemployment concentrations @ 0%
- 3) Plant closings and mass layoff @ 30%
- 4) Declining industries @ 0%
- 5) Farmer-rancher economic hardship @ 15%
- 6) Long-term unemployment @ 35%

List totals according to Adult, Youth, Dislocated Worker and the Grand Total of all three programs.

#### 3. Adult and Youth Allotments

1) Substantial Unemployment — Calculated as the North's and South's percentage of the average unemployment. The unemployment information is obtained from the Research & Analysis unit. The information source is the USDA, BLS, and Designation of Potential Area of Substantial Unemployment from Research & Analysis.

North (Number & Percent)

South (Clark, Nye, Lincoln, Esmeralda) – (Number & Percent)

Total – The North and South amounts (percentage and number) shown above must equal 100% of the total of the unemployed number.

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Adult and Youth Allotments from section 2A(1) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 3(1).

**NLWIB** 

**SLWIB** 

Subtotal – Must equal the total amount of the Adult and Youth Allotments in section 2(A)(1).

<u>2) Excess unemployment (exceeding 4.5%)</u> – Based on average unemployment in areas over 4.5%. Source is Labor Force Summary Data (downloaded from www.Nevadaworkforce.com)

North

Total Labor Force (Number)

Unemployment (Number)

Unemployment Rate (Percentage)

Percent of Total Excess Unemployment (Percent of total excess unemployment exceeding 4.5%)

South

Total Labor Force (Number)

Unemployment (Number)

Unemployment Rate (Percentage)

Percent of Total Excess Unemployment (Percent of total excess unemployment exceeding 4.5%)

Total Excess Unemployment (Number)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Adult and Youth Allotments from section 2A(2) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 3(2).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

**Subtotal** – Must equal the total amount of the Adult and Youth Allotments in section 2(A)(2).

<u>3) Economically Disadvantaged</u> – Source: Economically disadvantage population is based on 2006-2010 American Community survey. Check for a more current study.

Adults Youths

North (number)

South (number)

Total (number)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Adult and Youth Allotments from section 2A(3) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 3(3).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

**Subtotal** – Must equal the total amount of the Adult and Youth Allotments in section 2(A)(3).

#### 4. Dislocated Worker Allotment

1) Insured unemployment @ 20% of total allotment – Source is benefit payments EM252-R from Research & Analysis Division.

North (Number & Percent)

South (Number & Percent)

Total (Number)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Dislocated Worker allotment from section 2B(1) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 4(1).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

**Subtotal** (Dollar Number) – Must equal total in Dislocated Worker allotment 2B(1).

#### 2) Unemployment concentrations @ 0%

# 3) Plant closings and mass layoff @ 30% of total allotment – Source is Rapid Response Database from the Employment Security Division.

North (Number & Percent)

South (Number & Percent)

Total (Number)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Dislocated Worker allotment from section 2B(3) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 4(3).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

**Subtotal** (Dollar Number) – Must equal total in Dislocated Worker allotment 2B(3).

#### 4) Declining industries @ 0%

# 5) Farmer-rancher economic hardship @ 15% of the total allotment – Source is USDA Nevada Farm Service Agency Farm Loan Program (Delinquent Loan Accounts).

North (Number & Percent)

South (Number & Percent)

Total (Number & Percent)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Dislocated Worker allotment from section 2B(5) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 4(5).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

Subtotal (Dollar Number) – Must equal total in Dislocated Worker allotment 2B(5).

# <u>6) Long-term unemployment @ 35%</u> - Source is EM252-R-1 from the Research & Analysis Division (UI Benefits Exhausted)

North (Number & Percent)

South (Number & Percent)

Total (Number & Percent)

The amounts calculated for the NLWIB and SLWIB below are determined by multiplying the Dislocated Worker allotment from section 2B(6) on page 1 by the North and South percentages in section 4(6).

NLWIB (Dollar Number)

SLWIB (Dollar Number)

**Subtotal** (Dollar Number) – Must equal total in Dislocated Worker allotment 2B(6).

#### 5. Summaries

# <u>A. Summary Before Hold Harmless</u> <u>Adult</u> <u>Youth</u> <u>Dislocated Worker</u> <u>Total</u> NLWIB (Dollar)

SLWIB (Dollar)

**Total** 

# <u>B. Percentage Before Hold Harmless</u> <u>Adult</u> <u>Youth</u> <u>Dislocated Worker</u> <u>Total</u> <u>NLWIB (Dollar)</u>

SLWIB (Dollar)

Total (Should be 100% for all columns)

**6.** *Hold Harmless* – In order to adjust for extreme or temporary changes in the yearly unemployment and economic disadvantage indicators or the policy year grant amount, a hold harmless provision may be implemented. The hold harmless provision calculates a 90% average of the allocations for the preceding two years, excluding rescission and re-allotment and adjusts the amounts in the summary table above to compensate for relative declines or increases in the new policy year allotments for the NLWIB and SLWIB.

#### ATTACHMENT F

### Workforce Investment Act State of Nevada Workforce Investment Board - Internal Policy

#### In-State Funding Policy - May 2012

The State Board shall assist the Governor in development of allocation formulas for the distribution of funds for adult employment and training activities and youth activities to local areas as permitted under sections 128(b)(3)(B) and 133(b)(3)(B) of Public Law 105-220;

The State Board will include a description of the methods and/or factors the State will use in distributing funds to local areas for youth activities and adult employment and training activities under sections 128(b)(3)(B) and 133(b)(3)(B) of Public Law 105-220, including:

- a description of how the individuals and entities represented on the State board were involved in determining such methods and factors of distribution; and
- a description of how the State consulted with chief elected officials in local areas throughout the State in determining such distribution;
- 1. With-in State Allocations for Youth
  - Methods.--The Governor, acting in accordance with the State plan, and after consulting with chief elected officials in the local areas, shall allocate the funds that are allotted to the State for youth activities and statewide workforce investment activities under section 127(b)(1)(C) of Public Law 105-220, and are not reserved under subsection (a), in accordance with paragraph (2) or (3).
- 3. Formula Allocation for Youth Activities
  - Allocation.--In allocating the funds to local areas, the State may allocate--
    - 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in section 127(b)(1)(C)(ii)(I) of Public Law 105-220;
    - o 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in section 127(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of Public Law 105-220; and
    - o 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in clauses (ii)(III) and (iii) of section 127(b)(1)(C) of Public Law 105-220.
  - Minimum percentage.--Effective at the end of the second full fiscal year after the date on which a local area is designated under section 116 of Public Law 105-220, the local area shall not receive an allocation percentage for a fiscal year that is less than 90 percent of the average allocation percentage of the local area for the 2 preceding fiscal years. Amounts necessary for increasing such allocations to local

areas to comply with the preceding sentence shall be obtained by ratably reducing the allocations to be made to other local areas under this subparagraph.

- Definition.--The term "allocation percentage", used with respect to fiscal year 2000 or a subsequent fiscal year, means a percentage of the funds received through an allocation made under this subparagraph, for the fiscal year.
- Youth discretionary allocation.--In lieu of making the allocation described above to local areas, the State may distribute--
  - a portion equal to not less than 70 percent of the funds in accordance allocation formula above and
  - the remaining portion of the funds on the basis of a formula that incorporates additional factors (other than the factors described in the formula above) relating to:
    - excess youth poverty in urban, rural, and suburban local areas; and
    - excess unemployment above the State average in urban, rural, and suburban local areas; and:
    - was developed by the State board and approved by the Department of Labor as part of the State plan.
- 4. Allocations for Adult and Dislocated Worker Activities
  - Methods.--The Governor, acting in accordance with the State plan, and after consulting with chief elected officials in the local areas, shall allocate
    - o the funds that are allotted to the State for adult employment and training activities and statewide workforce investment activities under section 132(b)(1)(B) of Public Law 105-220 and are not reserved under subsection (a)(1), in accordance with paragraph (2) or (3); and
    - o the funds that are allotted to the State for dislocated worker employment and training activities under section 132(b)(2)(B) of Public Law 105-220 and are not reserved under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a), in accordance with paragraph (2).
  - Adult employment and training activities formula allocation.
    - 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in section 132(b)(1)(B)(ii)(I);
    - (II) 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in section 132(b)(1)(B)(ii)(II); and
    - o (III) 33 1/3 percent of the funds on the basis described in clauses (ii)(III) and (iii) of section 132(b)(1)(B).
  - Minimum percentage.--Effective at the end of the second full fiscal year after the date on which a local area is designated under section 116, the local area shall not receive an allocation percentage for a fiscal year that is less than 90 percent of the average allocation percentage of the local area for the 2 preceding fiscal years. Amounts necessary for increasing such allocations to local areas to comply with the preceding sentence shall be obtained by ratably reducing the allocations to be made to other local areas under this subparagraph.

- Definition.--The term "allocation percentage", used with respect to fiscal year 2000
  or a subsequent fiscal year, means a percentage of the funds received through an
  allocation made under this subparagraph, for the fiscal year.
- Adult employment and training discretionary allocations.-- In lieu of making the formula allocation described above, the State may distribute—
  - a portion equal to not less than 70 percent of the funds in accordance with the formula and
  - o the remaining portion of the funds on the basis of a formula that—
    - incorporates additional factors (other than the factors described in the formula) relating to
      - excess poverty in urban, rural, and suburban local areas; and
      - excess unemployment above the State average in urban, rural, and suburban local areas; and
    - was developed by the State board and approved by the Secretary as part of the State plan.
- Dislocated worker employment and training activities formula.
  - o In allocating the funds to local areas, the State shall allocate the funds based on an allocation formula prescribed by the Governor of the State. Such formula may be amended by the Governor not more than once for each program year. Such formula shall utilize the most appropriate information available to the Governor to distribute amounts to address the State's worker readjustment assistance needs.
  - The information described in Governor's formula shall include insured unemployment data, unemployment concentrations, plant closing and mass layoff data, declining industries data, farmer-rancher economic hardship data, and long-term unemployment data.

### **Attachment G: Public Comments**

The entire State Plan including the waiver requests were posted for Public comment from July 26, 2012 through August 29, 2012. The written public comments received during the comment period, follow this page.